

The NATIONAL WOOL GROWER



Volume XXV Number 10

OCTOBER, 1935

The Kelso Ram Auctions

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Basis of Lamb Prices in the Light of 1935 Figures

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A Comparison of the Values of Cottonseed Cake and Corn for Supplemental Feeding of Range Ewes

Official Organ of the
NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS
ASSOCIATION
Salt Lake City, Utah

and the
NATIONAL WOOL MARKETING
CORPORATION
Boston, Mass.

ACCURATE KNOWLEDGE

Is the basis of correct opinions

At this time of the year much is said about what your livestock will bring at various markets; how it will be sorted, who will buy it.

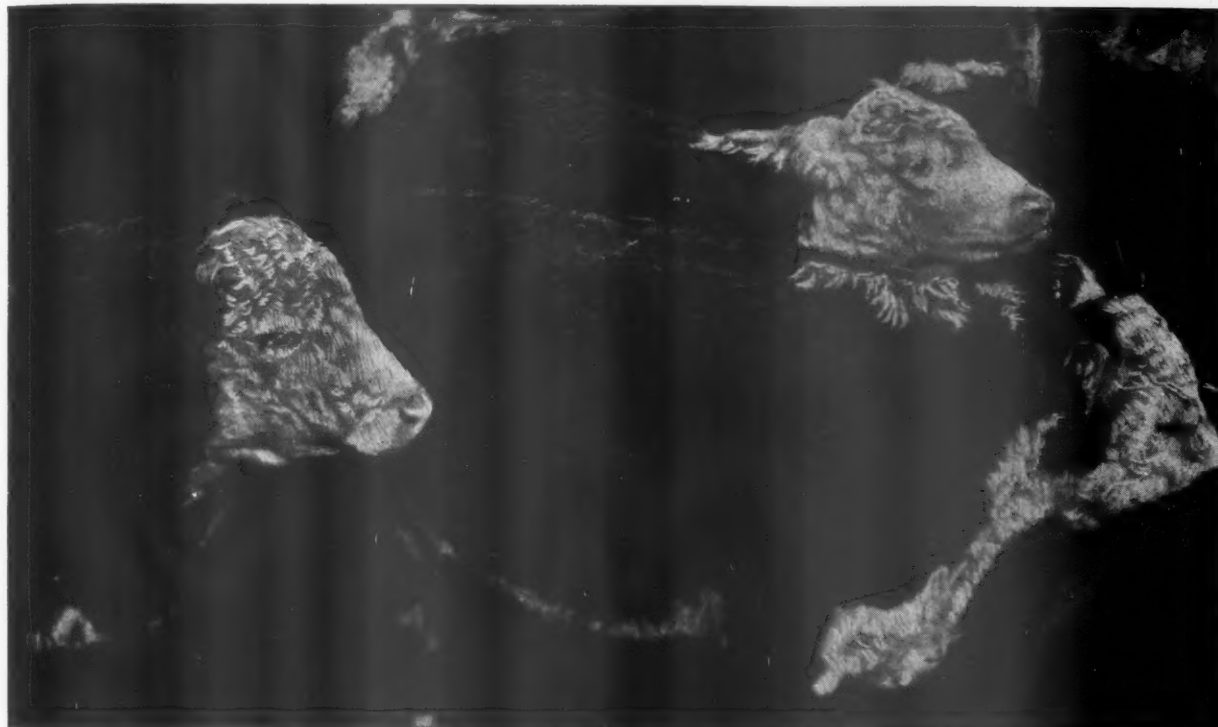
In their eagerness to attract business, many will overstate their market and understate others. The grower must have accurate knowledge of prices at all points in order to form correct opinions. A correct opinion may mean much in his net returns.

The DENVER MARKET is always willing to quote "actual sales and sorts." They will tell you what livestock from your locality sold for today and how it was sorted. Such "facts" are better than any other information you can get.

LARGE GROWERS WITH THE MOST "ACCURATE KNOWLEDGE" USUALLY MARKET AT DENVER

On Friday October 4th, 2847 Utah-Colorado L. S. Co. (Winder) lambs sold at Denver at \$9.40 straight, 5 cents over the top at Chicago and 50 cents over the Missouri River top (U. S. Bureau of Markets reports). These lambs were distributed four cars to Hoboken, N. J.; three to New York City, one to Brooklyn, two to Omaha for early Saturday slaughter and one car was slaughtered at Denver. Real Distribution.





An opportunity arising from the drought


● For those producers who are willing to turn a misfortune into an advantage, the drought may actually become a blessing. The thousands of stock raisers who had to sacrifice their scrubs are now in a position to create for themselves finer herds and flocks than they had before. The finer animals that remain must sire the new herds.

Producers should make every effort to raise the quality of their stock. The finer the livestock, the finer the meat. The finer the meat, the more willing the housewife to pay a price that will yield the producer, as well as the packer and retailer, a satisfactory return.

A. H. Cabree
President.

ARMOUR AND COMPANY

To the Wool Growers of the United States

A decorative graphic consisting of several thin, vertical parallel lines of varying lengths, extending from the horizontal line below the title down towards the bottom of the page.

From January, 1934, until the third week of April, 1935, the National as selling agent for a vast number of wool producers was forced to fight against a progressively lower world-wide wool market.

During this period, all primary wool markets faced a substantial carryover of old wool, and woolen and worsted manufacturers both here and abroad, through fear of further recessions in values, purchased only for their immediate requirements with the result fine wool declined 51%.

Since late in April of this year, the increased demand for wool by England, Japan, and Continental countries has been tremendous, and as wool advanced 20% abroad, it was reflected in our domestic wool market and caused a heavy covering movement by our American manufacturers, many of whom had sold cloth beyond their ability to manufacture from wool inventories then owned.

Sales of wool have been large and we feel sure present values can easily be maintained. There is no excessive amount of old wool anywhere in the world. Our domestic stock is only normal. Mills are consuming wool at a rapid rate and will continue to do so for many weeks to come.

We have confidence in our ability to market all wool consigned to us at present levels or somewhat higher values. Our sales organization has been augmented and improved and we solicit wool consignments from our old friends and all other wool growers with a belief we can serve you best.

National Wool Marketing Corporation

281 SUMMER STREET

BOSTON, MASS.

Marketing Wool Direct To Mills Through The National Wool Marketing Corporation is a Sound Practice, Because:—

- 1—The National is grower-owned and operated. It has no interests to serve other than those of its grower-customers.
- 2—The National is located in Boston—wool marketing center of the United States.
- 3—The volume of business handled by the National justifies the maintenance of a selling organization composed of men of high standing in the Wool Trade.
- 4—THE NATIONAL DOES NOT BUY OR SPECULATE IN WOOL FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT.
- 5—The National is amply financed and guarantees payment to the growers of all net returns resulting from the sale of their wool.
- 6—The National has established a reputation second to none for fair dealings with its mill customers.
- 7—The National believes that a healthy wool market can exist only when the manufacturers can operate on a profitable basis. For this reason the National has always used its best efforts to prevent unwarranted price fluctuation so destructive to business stability.
- 8—Orderly marketing through the National, if consistently followed through a term of years, will yield the best returns.

National Wool Marketing Corporation
281 SUMMER STREET
BOSTON, MASS.

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The National Wool Grower

Official Organ of the
National Wool Growers Association
and the
National Wool Marketing Corporation

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Texas, Washington and Wyoming. To nonmembers in the United States and Canada \$1.50 per year; foreign, \$2.00 per year.

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Editorial Comment on Sheep and Wool Affairs

Wool growers have an important decision to make. Shall they continue their financial connections with concerns connected with the Farm Credit Administration, or shall they return to the banks of deposit to borrow needed funds?

Loans Reduced

Considerable payments are being made this fall on wool growers' notes held by Production Credit Associations, Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations, and other concerns designed and equipped to handle livestock loans exclusively and that discount with Federal Intermediate Credit Banks. The amount of next year's repayments will be determined by markets and the extent of the rise in expenses. But there is a good prospect that within a few years many outfits will wipe out their capital loans and limit borrowing to current budget needs. That is, unless they decide to spread out and get rich quick.

With improved markets, and loans reduced below the safety line, borrowers on sheep are being solicited to return to the same banks that were unable to carry their livestock paper through the depressions of 1920 and 1932. The War Finance Corporation saved the day for the banks and the livestock men in 1920, and in this depression their salvation came through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The livestock loan business of that institution was transferred to the new Farm Credit Administration and placed on a permanent basis by the Act of 1933.

The so-called government livestock loan concerns have worked better than was expected. Borrowers' stock ownership in the Production Credit Association has caused no trouble, and earnings of the associations go only to stockholders. The loan committees are composed of stockmen. They are not pressed to show profits; their chief concern is with safety and economy. In better times, these associations can be relied upon to avoid making credit easy for those who want to spread out or to speculate, because their stockholders are their borrowing customers and more concerned with safety and low interest rates than with dividends.

The retention of a large proportion of livestock financing with agencies set up and managed as are the Production Credit Associations should aid greatly in the prevention of cycles of increased production that heretofore have been the result of too easy credit in good times, extended, and often offered, to produce dividends to institutions that are unable to serve their livestock borrowers when there is financial uneasiness.

On the other hand the necessity of employing deposited funds and of getting profit for stockholders has caused banks not familiar with livestock, nor

equipped for economical inspection work, to go with the tide and at its turn find that the long-term financing required for livestock production does not fit in with the loaning of funds payable on call.

In the event interest rates offered by banks should be the same as charged by the government-connected loan agencies, the stockman then will need to decide as to where he shall borrow in the light of the probable permanency of the two classes of service.

Future Safety

The worst that can be said against the stockman's reliance upon the Farm Credit Administration for financial service is that it is yet, to a considerable extent, connected with the government and directed by appointed officials. At the time of setting up the new organizations there were some complaints of political consideration in the election or appointment of local officers, but little of the kind has been heard since the associations got into action. It must be recognized that the F.C.A. has functioned with the least evidence of partisanship of any of the newer creations of Congress. With the opportunity offered for control by borrower-stockholders over local and regional officials there should be a minimum of the difficulty that usually is feared in affairs where government capital is employed. With the final retirement of the government capital, full control comes to the stockholding borrowers.

One danger still remains which, however, can be controlled by action of the conservative majority in the livestock business. This danger lies in the probability that the plunger type of operators and speculators will demand that the three grower-controlled and co-operative loan agencies follow the old tactics of credit inflation with its boosting of prices and production and subsequent catastrophe. Should demands be made upon the Congress to compel the F.C.A. to depart from its safe policies, the conservative element will need to be active in opposing such attempt.

The Wool Grower made no comment upon the President's message on his veto of the Taylor law amendments printed in the September issue. Perhaps no

criticism should be directed at the President other than for his apparently complete reliance upon a member of his cabinet who shows such gross lack of understanding of

Bureau Vetoed

land and grazing affairs in the public land states. The pitiful weakness and fallacies of Secretary Ickes' memorandum, which the President unfortunately adopted as explanation of his veto, were ably and fairly shown in an article which appeared in the Wyoming Wool Grower, edited by J. B. Wilson, secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association.

Senate Investigation of Wool Marketing

JUST prior to the adjournment of the first session of the 74th Congress, a special committee named under Senate Resolution 160 to investigate the marketing of wool made plans for the collection of data and took other steps to secure material and information to be placed before the committee in December. No announcement was made as to the time at which witnesses will be called. Apparently much depends upon the developments in connection with the audit to be made of the books of wool houses in different cities.

The acting secretary of the committee is Mr. R. F. Camalier, whose headquarters and also those of Mr. E. S. Haskell are at the office of Senator Adams in the Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

The members of the committee are as follows: Alva B. Adams (Colorado) chairman; Carl A. Hatch (New Mexico), Frederick Steiwer (Oregon), James E. Murray (Montana), and Robert D. Carey, Wyoming.

Persons having information or suggestions which they consider likely to be of value to the committee should send fullest possible details to Secretary Camalier or to any members of the committee. If desired, statements can be sent to the National Wool Growers Association for presentation to the committee.

Statements of facts pertaining to any practice or condition which should be considered by the committee ought to carry the fullest possible details as to dates, names and so forth. Such information will not be for publication, but in order to be of value to the committee the fullest details are necessary so as to determine whether there is question as to practices followed or as to how further investigations may be made.

The following request has been sent to various wool growers' organizations. Statements from individ-

uals, as referred to above, will also be received by the committee.

Gentlemen:

The Senate of the United States, by resolution passed July 10, 1935, appointed a special committee to investigate the production, transportation, and marketing of wool.

The resolution states as a primary reason for this investigation that "proper methods of marketing wool are essential to the establishment and maintenance of the prosperity of the industry."

The committee will be assisted in its investigation by Mr. Earl S. Haskell of the Division of Livestock and Feed Grains, who has been detailed to work under the direction of this committee by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

It is the intention of the committee to assemble, in advance of public hearings, factual material pertaining to the marketing of wool and it would be appreciated if your Association, at its earliest convenience, would furnish the committee such specific and detailed records, reports, and tabulations as its members may be in a position to submit. It is thought that in this way those having records, reports, and tabulations of interest and value to the committee would be accommodated by being saved the trouble and expense of gathering, transporting and presenting these records to such place as the Senate Committee might be holding hearings.

The committee desires to develop a wholly fair and complete picture of the wool marketing situation and machinery, and would, therefore, welcome information in support of, as well as complaints against, existing wool marketing methods and practices.

Very truly yours,
R. F. CAMALIER,
Acting Secretary.

Lower Commission Rates Effective at Ogden and North Salt Lake

MOST unique in the history of the work of the Packers and Stockyards Administration in connection with commission rates and stockyard charges is the announcement made by commission firms at Ogden and North Salt Lake (Utah), that they will not appeal from the order prescribing lower rates issued by the Secretary of Agriculture on August 29. These new rates (\$12 for single decks of sheep and \$17 for double decks, as against the old rates of \$15 and \$21) went into effect 30 days after the Secretary's order.

The Ogden and North Salt Lake Livestock Exchanges are the first to accept such an order and dispense with the usual legal procedure of many months' duration.

The Ogden Wool Auction

DURING the first four days of October, a series of wool sales was held by Merrion and Wilkins at Ogden, Utah, for the closing out of the balance of the three million pounds of 1935 wool consigned for sale through this firm.

In the first sale in July, about three quarters of a million pounds was disposed of, most of which was sold by private sale following the close of the auction in which only a few lots reached the reserve price.

The last sale extended over four days. In the forenoon, sample bags of lots offered that day were laid out for the examination of the buyers, and the bidding started in the auction at 2 o'clock. Reserve bids had been placed upon all lots and the highest bidders on the lots not sold were given an option of raising their bids during the 24 hours following the close of the sale. The offerings covered around two million pounds divided into about 275 lots ranging in weight from 800 pounds to as high as 41,000 pounds. All but 14 lots were graded according to fineness.

Of the two million pounds listed, about seven hundred thousand were sold in the auction. No statements have been issued as to the amounts sold by private treaty following the auction.

The average sale price on all wools sold was 23.79 cents, the price range on lots being from 20 cents on some of the heavier fine wools to as high as 27¾ cents on a 3,000 pound lot of Idaho three-eighths blood which sold to a Chicago dealer.

Outsiders who examined the sample lots for shrinkage and quality estimated that in general the prices on the lots sold left a sufficient margin below Boston quotations to cover the expense of shipping to Boston and to allow some profit for the handler.

Taylor District Affairs

NO definite announcement has yet been made by the Department of the Interior as to whether districts will be set up during the present year in addition to the present thirty which comprise, approximately, the 80 million acres authorized under existing law. The bill of amendments to the Taylor Act, which was vetoed by the President, would have permitted the inclusion of a total of 142 million acres in grazing districts.

There is presented with this article a summary of the applications approved for licenses to graze in Taylor grazing districts during the coming season. Some of the applications approved are still in tentative form. None of the sets of rules regarding the granting of licenses or range practices have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior and therefore all are in tentative form and any action taken thereunder cannot be considered final. It is expected that approval or disapproval will have been given to the rules set up by each of the 30 district advisory boards by December 1.

The tables show the summary by states of public domain grazing licenses approved for the present season. The number of applications rejected is not given. Many of the applications rejected were filed by parties owning no stock, or having no priority or proper claim to recognition for grazing on the public domain.

In districts 1, 2, 3, and 4, of Utah, 241 applications were rejected entirely while 1913 were given Class 1 and 1306 Class 2 licenses. The 3219 licenses granted represented 122,413 cattle, of which 38,344 are now under forest permit, and 1,578,264 sheep, of which 477,463 are covered by forest permits.

The one district which has been

put in operation in Arizona lies next to the southern boundary of Utah, commonly known as the Arizona Strip. There, 403 applications were made, of which 36 were rejected, and 165 were given Class 1 and 202

Class 2 licenses. The total licenses granted covered 31,156 cattle, of which only 4,173 are now on the forests, and 184,438 sheep, of which only 36,029 are under forest permits.

Grazing Licenses Issued By Division of Grazing, Department of the Interior, in 30 Grazing Districts, Sept. 5, 1935

STATE	DISTRICT NUMBER	NUMBER LICENSES	CATTLE	HORSES	SHEEP	GOATS	TOTAL
Arizona	1	385	31,156	1,933	184,438	21,190	238,717
California	1	162	24,941	10	109,158		134,109
	2	414	60,205	4,125	113,170		177,500
		576	85,146	4,135	222,328		311,609
Colorado	1	599	71,298		202,471		273,769
	2	287	32,605		47,317		79,922
	3	708	93,514		229,076		322,590
	4	298	23,392	682	152,053	164	176,291
	6	263	10,271		88,260		98,531
		2,155	231,080	682	719,103	164	951,103
Idaho	1	882	90,904	11,479	709,702	3	812,088
Montana	2	252	19,852	14,265	86,234		120,351
	3	166	17,555	2,717	62,038	2	82,312
	4	71	3,517	405	26,569	12	30,503
		489	40,924	17,387	174,841	14	233,166
Nevada	1	397	171,640	14,397	441,096	96	627,229
New Mexico	3	663	142,611	5,379	18,662	49,225	215,877
	4	303	48,283	3,610	60,872	37,189	149,954
	5	135	23,608	2,323	33,120	15,683	74,732
	6	601	158,492	8,105	420,060	17,337	603,994
		1,702	372,994	19,714	532,714	119,434	1,044,856
Oregon	1	60	5,854	238	25,080		31,172
	2	410	103,858	10,848	36,351		151,057
	3	391	45,882	7,958	208,720	18	262,378
	4	176	24,509	3,973	110,635		139,117
		1,037	180,103	23,017	380,786	18	583,924
Utah	1	438	30,477	3,364	198,308		232,149
	2	1,020	24,717	2,553	554,815		582,085
	3	1,406	38,784	3,476	502,023	3,000	547,283
	4	1,021	28,435	2,082	323,118	23,446	377,081
	5	712	29,190	3,127	138,359	25	170,701
	6	483	35,747	2,939	234,352	210	273,248
	7	860	27,563	3,204	165,278	4,725	200,770
	8	561	23,098	1,441	267,584	40	292,163
		6,501	238,011	22,186	2,383,837	31,446	2,675,480
Wyoming	1	529	42,073	4,393	319,604		366,070
TOTALS	30	14,653	1,484,031	119,323	6,068,523	172,365	7,844,242
			Crossing permits		114,300		
			Total Sheep		6,182,823		7,958,542

Summary for 10 Western States

STATE	CATTLE	HORSES	SHEEP	GOATS	TOTAL	LICENSES
Arizona	31,156	1,933	184,438	21,190	238,717	385
California	85,146	4,135	222,328	—	311,609	576
Colorado	231,080	682	719,103	164	951,103	2,155
Idaho	90,904	11,479	709,702	3	812,088	882
Montana	40,924	17,387	174,841	14	233,166	489
Nevada	171,640	14,398	441,096	96	627,229	397
New Mexico	372,994	19,714	532,714	119,434	1,044,856	1,702
Oregon	180,103	23,017	380,786	18	583,924	1,037
Utah	238,011	22,186	2,383,837	31,446	2,675,480	6,501
Wyoming	42,073	4,393	319,604	—	366,070	529
Total Licenses	14,653					
Total Livestock	7,958,542					
Total Cattle	1,484,031					
Total Horses	119,323					
Total Sheep	6,182,823					
Total Goats	172,365					

Of the 4473 grazing licenses issued to sheepmen, 1723, or 38.5 per cent, were issued to owners of less than 500 head; 894, or 15.5 per cent, were issued to owners of 800 to 1000 head; 986, or 22.2 per cent, to owners of 1000 to 2000 head; 500, or 11 per cent, to owners of 2000 to 3000 head of sheep; 369, or 8.3 per cent to owners of 3000 to 5000 head; 187, or 4.2 per cent, to owners of 5000 to 10,000 head of sheep; and 14, or .3 per cent, were issued to owners of more than 10,000 head.

Of the 10,458 licenses issued to cattlemen, 5408, or 52 per cent were issued to owners of less than 50 head of stock; 1917, or 18 per cent, to owners of 50 to 100 head; 1409, or 13 per cent, to owners of 100 to 200 head; 1162, or 11 per cent, to owners of 200 to 500 head; 364, or 4 per cent, to owners of 500 to 1000 head; 188, or 2 per cent, to owners of 1000 to 5000 head; and 6 licenses, or .06 per cent, were issued to owners of 5000 to 10,000 head of cattle.

The question of giving Taylor district licenses to non-property owners has come up in several states. In Colorado, one district board ruled the stock owned by such persons should be given nine months in which to leave the district. Such a ruling appears to be wholly in accord with the language and intent of the Taylor law. However, the officials have notified such applicants that they may remain on the range until official approval or disapproval

SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

CONVENTIONS

- California Wool Growers, San Francisco—November 21-22
- Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers, San Antonio—December 5-6
- American National Live Stock Association, Phoenix, Arizona—January 7-10, 1936
- Idaho Wool Growers—January 7-8-9*
- Oregon Wool Growers, Baker — January 10-11
- Washington Wool Growers—January 13-14*
- Montana Wool Growers, Bozeman—January 16-18
- Utah Wool Growers, Salt Lake—January 20-21
- National Wool Growers, Salt Lake—January 22-24

(*Convention city not yet named.)

SHOWS

- American Royal, Kansas City — October 19-26
- Ak-Sar-Ben, Omaha—October 27-November 2
- Kansas National, Wichita—November 11-15
- Great Western, Los Angeles—November 16-23
- International, Chicago—November 30-December 7
- Ogden Livestock Show, Ogden, Utah—January 10-16
- National Western, Denver—January 18-25, 1936

has been given at Washington to the district rules.

Correction

THE September issue of the Wool Grower carried a report of a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association at which Mr. F. R. Carpenter, director of grazing, was

present and discussed affairs pertaining to the administration of grazing districts. At that meeting it was understood that Mr. Carpenter made the statement which appeared in that report (page 14), that the Advisory Board of Idaho District No. 1 had agreed that "charges made to different classes of public domain licensees should be adjusted to equalize the difference between cost of summer grazing paid by forest permittees and by non-permittees who pay higher rates on leased land."

We have since been informed, however, that when the proposal for such an arrangement was brought up for final action, it was rejected by the board of the Idaho district by a vote of 16 to 1.

Federal Trade Decision on Wool Clothing Case

RECENT decisions of the Federal Trade Commission include one on a case in which the misuse of the term "all wool" was one of the grounds on which the complaint was based.

Briefly stated, the case, known as Docket 2242, was one in which a Daniel Walcoff of New York, doing business under the following trade names: Interstate Clothing Company, Transcontinental Clothing Manufacturers, Nation Wide Clothing Company, Coast to Coast Clothing Company, Interstate Trouser Company, Specialty Clothing Company, and Interstate Tailoring Company, employed men over the country to sell men's clothing, which he purchased completely made up. In making the sales, his representatives, whom he referred to as "dealers," told the prospective customer that the article he purchased would be tailor-made to his individual measurements, and that it would be made of all-wool or high grade material. The latter statement was supported in many instances by the display of samples of all-wool cloth of very superior quality. The comparatively low prices asked for the clothing

were explained by the fact that the offer was merely an introductory one. The salesmen received as their commission the purchaser's down payment.

The investigation by the Federal Trade Commission showed that Mr. Walcoff did not conduct a manufacturing or tailoring business; that, in fact, his plant consisted of one room used as an office and a storeroom; and that instead of being made of all-wool, the clothing was either composed of cotton cloth or of cotton with a small admixture of wool.

The commission held that Mr. Walcoff was "guilty of the use of unfair methods of competition in interstate commerce" and he was ordered to "cease and desist" from the misrepresentations indicated above and given 60 days to file with the commission a report of the way in which he was complying with this order.

Good Use for Cockle Burrs

WE print the following from the Durango (Colorado) Herald Democrat of September 5:

The CCC boys, out on the La Plata River, under the direction of Hans Aspaas, are harvesting the cockle burrs along the sheep drives.

Jim Jarvis says that "every damned cockle burr gathered and destroyed is worth a thousand dollars to the sheepmen of the section." This, of course, is somewhat of an exaggeration, but at that, one would be surprised to learn of the number of thousands of dollars lost to San Juan Basin wool growers on account of the cockle burrs. The presence of these burrs in the wool automatically classifies the wool, and means a lesser price than is obtained elsewhere for wool that is free from burrs, even though the wool itself is neither as long nor of as fine a texture as is the San Juan Basin wool. We don't mean to argue that the camp is self sustaining while on this cockle burr harvesting program, but at least the boys might better be harvesting cockle burrs than doing a lot of other things that could be mentioned.

Hans Aspaas has evidently seen enough wool docked for burrs that he realizes the extent of the nuisance. Congratulations, Hans! And now, may we suggest that these gathered burrs be crated and shipped to Washington. A few in the pants of each swivel chair commissaire every morning might hasten the return of prosperity.

—Or maybe more ants in their pants!

Annual Meeting of the American Rambouillet Association

MEMBERS of the American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Association held their annual meeting at the Hotel Utah, in Salt Lake City, Utah, on the evening of August 27, 1935.

The meeting was preceded by a dinner, with about 50 members in attendance.

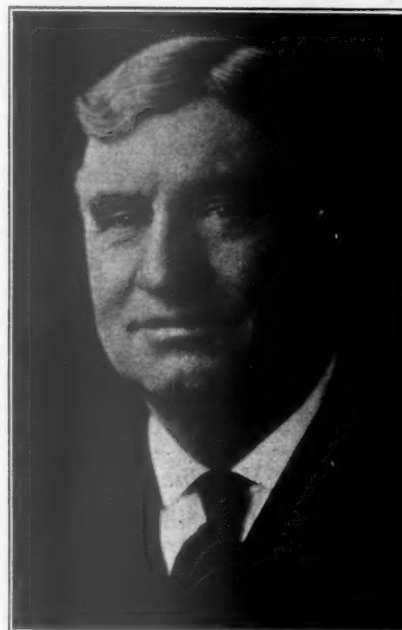
President Day gave a very good talk, full of optimism for the future of the Rambouillet sheep business. The first eight months of the year 1935, he said, showed a very large increase in the number of registrations at the recording office of the association in Marysville, Ohio, which had meant a substantial financial gain to the association.

W. D. Candland of Mt. Pleasant, Utah, was elected president for 1936 and Chandler P. Raup of Springfield, Ohio, was made vice president. Directors from the six districts into which the membership of the association is divided are: W. S. Alge, Arlington, Ohio; Frank L. Hall, Crawford, Nebr.; J. W. Owens, Ozona, Texas; W. S. Hansen, Collinston, Utah; J. H. King, Laramie, Wyoming; and Frank Bullard, Woodland, Calif. Mrs. Dwight Lincoln was re-employed as secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. Dwight Lincoln, Secretary

In Memoriam

Hugh W. Harvey



HUGH W. Harvey, a prominent leader in wool growers' affairs of Utah and also well known in sheep circles throughout the West, died at his home in Heber City, Utah, on October 1, following a short illness of pneumonia.

For eight years Mr. Harvey served as president of the state wool growers' association, and at the time of his death held that position with the Utah Wool Marketing Association. He was also president of the Uintah Forest Graziers Association and a member of the state Republican central committee.

He was born in Heber City, Utah, February 15, 1867, and spent his entire life there, giving generously of his time and interest to the civic and religious affairs of the community.

His widow, Mrs. Arbelia Howe Harvey, and the following sons and daughters survive: Mrs. Annie Crook, James M., John F., Myrth and Rex Harvey, all of Heber City, and Hugh Harvey of Shiprock, N. M.

Around the Range Country

WESTERN TEXAS

This country is pretty dry again. Precipitation at Amarillo was close to normal, but most of it came early in September, leaving that region in need of good, general rains. Temperatures, however, were cooler than usual, which tended toward the conservation of moisture. Rains came later farther south, but the grass needs some weeks yet to make growth, though forage conditions are already pretty good. Livestock are mostly fair to good. The fifth cutting of alfalfa was very promising.

McCamey

Feed is fine and the sheep are in excellent condition (October 1).

Most of the ewe lambs have been held here for replacements. All of our mutton lambs have been sold to feeders, however.

Practically all of the spring wool has been sold and the fall wools are starting at 26 cents a pound.

T. A. Kincaid

Uvalde

Our sheep are run on our own range lands. We have had excellent feed there this summer and fall conditions will also be good.

Our lamb crop was larger this year than last. We marketed 25 per cent more fat lambs and also had some increase in feeders.

Nearly all of our ewes are young, from two to four years old. We are also keeping more ewe lambs this fall than usual. Some bunches of straight fine wool ewe lambs have been contracted at 7½ cents a pound.

About 80 per cent of the spring wool clip has been sold.

Ashby & Bryson.

ARIZONA

Unseasonably warm weather prevailed, taking a heavy toll of moisture, though there was a good supply at the beginning of the month, and the last week brought a considerable amount pretty generally, with some snow in the elevated northern portion; some eastern counties also fared well for moisture. Livestock and ranges continue in good to excellent condition as a general rule, with ample drinking water supplies within reach.

Thatcher

We graze our sheep on the Indian reservation during the summer and this year had good feed there. It has been an excellent season here and fall prospects are exceptionally good.

Straight bunches of ewe lambs and wethers also have been selling at 6½ cents. A year ago we had no fat lambs to market, while this year better than half of the crop has been sold that way. More ewe lambs are being kept for flock replacements; about 20 per cent of our ewe bands are aged.

I think all of the wool has been either sold or consigned.

Lee Brothers.

THE notes on weather conditions, appearing under the names of the various states in *Around the Range Country*, are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications for the month of September.

The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

Winslow

Our sheep left the forest September 1, but at that time the feed was good there. In connection with the forests, we use state, railroad, leased and patented lands. Range conditions generally have been good, and look promising for the fall.

We are bitterly opposed to cuts in forest permits for range protection and feel that those for redistribution are entirely unnecessary.

The number of fat lambs shipped this fall is about 30 per cent greater than last fall. Crossbred ewe lambs have been selling at \$6 a head or 8 cents a pound. Not so many ewe lambs are being retained this year, although most of the ewes are old.

All the wool has been taken.

S. L.

NEW MEXICO

Temperatures were comparatively warm in the middle of the month, but the first ten days, and the last week were cold with some frost, the closing part being unusually cold in the mountains. Good rains fell early in the month; the middle two weeks were dry, and the last week brought more general precipitation, with snow in the mountains. Haying was delayed by wet weather but a considerable amount of good hay was stored. Ranges are showing a steady improvement, and much range grass is headed. Water is plentiful, and livestock are in fair to good condition generally.

Los Lunas

Summer grazing land is made up of public domain, state lands, and railroad holdings; we do not use any forest grazing. Feed on fall ranges, both public domain and other land, is good.

We shipped about the same number of fat lambs this season, but more feeders than a year ago.

The average age of ewes is about normal; more lambs are being kept this fall for replacements. Some ewe lambs, both fine wools and cross-breeds, have been contracted at 7½ to 8 cents a pound.

Only about 10 per cent of this year's wool clip is still in growers' hands.

F. D. Huning Co.

Carthage

Feed has been excellent on the public domain and on privately owned lands around here during August and up to the middle of September. We need rain in places now (September 17). I think feed will be fairly good this winter.

Lambs should be quite heavy and of about the same number as last year. Most of the lambs around here were contracted at 6 cents for mixed bunches. I know of no straight ewe lambs being sold.

I believe nearly all sheepmen here will go out of business when the Taylor grazing bill goes into effect, especially if it is operated on the individual allotment plan, as I am sure it will be, for everyone seems to want his own little pasture, having applied for all of his own and his neighbor's range also. There isn't enough land here to give everybody enough for their present amount of stock.

However, I look for sheep to come back after a time, but it will be under fence, and something will have to be done about the coyotes and cats. It would have been fine if we could have had a million of the four billion relief fund to put a lot of men to work trapping and poisoning coyotes, cats and lions. It seems to me that would be a No. 1 P.W.A. project—one that would return more than 100 per cent and also put a lot of men working. There are a lot of western men who can trap better than they can do anything else. So why not let them work at it, instead of blistering their hands on shovels?

Joe Holcomb.

Aztec

Forest grazing this summer was the best it has been in years, and as we have had more rain than usual, fall ranges will also be good.

We are shipping about the same number of lambs this season, but more of them have been in the fat class than was the case a year ago. From 6 to 7¼ cents has been taking mixed bunches of ewe and wether feeder lambs.

All of the wool of this section has either been sold or consigned.

Joseph S. Hartman.

COLORADO

The first week was cool and rainy, with the heaviest rains in northeastern counties; the rest of the month was almost without rains of importance until the last week when rains and snows were general and rather heavy, doing a little damage to crops and livestock. The middle two weeks were warm and fine, permitting much work on farms and with livestock. Ranges have been greatly benefited by the moisture everywhere; and silage corn was stored without damage as a rule. Livestock are good in the west and fair to good in the east, a considerable movement from the higher territory being reported.

NEVADA

Abnormally dry, warm weather prevailed, the last two weeks, however, having a few light showers over the northern portion. The winter range territory has not had enough moisture, excepting possibly the more elevated southeastern counties. Range forage has continued fairly good where livestock are located, however, and animals are in good condition as a rule. A great many cattle have been shipped. A few sheep have started toward winter ranges.

Wellington

Grazing has been good on the national forest during September, but it is getting dry now (the 26th). The feed situation on the public domain for this fall is not too good, as it is overstocked with tramp sheep,

but on other classes of range land it is all right.

I do not think it is necessary or advisable to reduce forest permits for range protection. I also feel that the range is now serving the legitimate users to its best purpose and to change the present set-up would do great damage.

We have shipped about twice as many fat lambs this year as in 1934. Last year most of the feeder lambs were fed locally, but they have all been shipped east this fall. About 75 per cent of both fine wool and crossbred ewe lambs have been kept this fall. The ewe bands are of about normal ages.

Only about 10 per cent of the 1935 wool clip is left in this section.

F. W. Simpson & Sons.

Eureka

We do not use national forest grazing, but run our sheep on a 640-acre homestead and land where our water rights are. Feed has been good there this season. Feed will also be good on fall ranges; the white sage is plentiful on the public domain areas.

We did not have any fat lambs to market last year. Feeder lambs have been exceptionally good this year.

The ewe bands are in good condition this year. We had to sell all our 1934 ewe lambs, but have not sold any this year.

All of our 1935 wool has been consigned.

Schaefer Sheep Co.

Whiteriver

The lambs have all been sold and shipped from here at from 5 to 6¾ cents. Most of the outfits retained their ewe lambs to keep up the herds with. There are quite a number of old ewes in most of the bands.

The open range where we graze our sheep has been fairly good this summer and the winter range is fair. Sheep are going into the winter in very good condition.

We are very much dissatisfied over the veto of the Taylor Grazing Act.

Jas. J. Riordan

UTAH

Livestock on the public or mountain ranges have done well, though the decided deficiency of precipitation over the northern portion prevented a luxuriant growth of forage. Farther south pasturage was good; but livestock in all sections are in good to excellent condition, excepting only those dependent on farm or local pasturage which have not done so well because of the drouth. Only one report at the end of the month indicated a fall of snow sufficient to start livestock toward lower areas.

CALIFORNIA

Temperatures on the whole were above normal, though the last week was cool. Precipitation was negligible as far as forage production is concerned, save in one week along the middle and northern coasts. Pastures and ranges are in good condition in middle counties, but only fair locally over the northeastern portion due to insufficient rain. Livestock as a rule have done well, as mountain forage did not dry out as rapidly as that in the valleys.

Cloverdale

There are no forests in our neighborhood, and we run our sheep and cattle on the same range the year round. The stock is going into the winter in excellent condition (September 26).

Fine wool ewe lambs have been contracted at 6 to 7 cents a pound. There are very few old ewes in the bands here; about the same number of ewe lambs are being kept this fall as last.

The fat end of the lamb crop was 50 per cent greater than in 1934, while the feeders were just about that much short of the previous year's total.

All of the wool in this section was sold at from 25 to 26½ cents a pound.

Ed. Haehl.

Fortuna

Owing to our proximity to the ocean, we do not have access to forest grazing lands, but run our sheep

on our own or rented land. Last month gave us more than an inch of rain and again this month (October 3) we are in the midst of another rain. Consequently fall and winter pastures should be abundant, and sheep are now in good condition.

This county probably shipped a few more and slightly heavier lambs than last year, thus leaving fewer feeders to be sold. Many aged ewes have been sold and shipped to alfalfa fields of the central valleys. About the same number of lambs are being retained for replacements. Some crossbred ewe lambs have been sold at from 7 to 7½ cents.

I believe every pound of wool in this section has been sold or consigned, with prices ranging from 22½ to 27 cents.

George E. Hanson

OREGON

There were a few periods of warm days, but cool nights were more frequent with light to heavy frosts to check the growth of alfalfa and other forage crops. A little rain was reported, and yet it was insufficient to promote the growth of fall forage. As a whole the month was the driest and warmest since 1918. The eastern portion was especially dry. Corn matured slowly because of the cold nights. There is a fair amount of dry feed. Livestock are moving to markets and winter ranges pretty generally.

Grass Valley

Feed conditions were good on the national forest during August. Fall ranges will be poor, however, if it doesn't rain soon.

The ratio between fat and feeder lambs has been quite different from that of last year. This season we shipped 20 per cent more fat lambs and the feeder end of the crop is about 25 per cent under that of last year.

Contracts on feeder lambs have been made in the range of \$5 to \$7 per hundredweight. Straight bunches of ewe lambs have been contracted at 7½ for fine wools and up to 8 cents for crossbreds.

Henry Patjens.

Baker

This locality is more than four inches short on rainfall, to date (October 2), and unless we get a lot of rain in the next two weeks, livestock will have to go into the feed yards much earlier than usual.

This section has shipped from 25 to 30 per cent more fat lambs this fall than a year ago and will have just about that many less feeders.

Very few ewe lambs have been retained for flock replacements, but the herds have been well culled and there are a good many young ewes in the bands. Fine wool ewe lambs are moving at 7¼ cents a pound and crossbreds at 7½ cents.

I think most of the sheepmen here are willing to have their forest permits cut when such is absolutely necessary for the protection of the forage, but do not feel that way at all about reductions for redistribution.

Cordon Ragsdale

Baker

Spring and early summer range on public domain land was better this year than for several years, which resulted in more fat lambs and more weight. Lack of summer rains, however, caused high ranges to dry early. Fall ranges are in fair condition.

The bands run rather heavily to aged ewes and we have not been able to keep as many ewe lambs as in 1934 for replacements. Transactions in ewe lambs are on a 7 to 7¼-cent basis for fine wools and 7¼ to 7½ for crossbreds.

Most of the stockmen are objecting strongly to the cuts in forest grazing permits.

F. A. Phillips.

WASHINGTON

Seasonal or somewhat above normal temperatures prevailed, and showers were ample for pasturage and cultivated forage crops in the western portion; but rain was lacking over eastern counties, or insufficient, so that crops and native forage plants were not so luxuriant as

(Continued on page 39)

Ring No. 3 of the Eleven Auction Rings at the 1935 Kelso Ram Sales. The Border Leicester Ram is Just Being Knocked Down to the High Bid of the Entire Sale, \$1500.



The Kelso Ram Auctions

By John Ashton, Ph. D.

READERS of the National Wool Grower will remember that in 1925 the writer toured the southern counties of Hampshire and Wiltshire, in England, visiting particularly the leading flocks of Hampshire sheep, and told about it at the time in the pages of this journal.

On my late trip to Europe, however, I decided to take in some of the sheep country in the north of England, and was much impressed by what I saw in Northumberland. This is a region where grass feeding on permanent pastures, rather than folding, is the system most in vogue.

It was fortunate that I found myself doing this north country just about the date of the famous Kelso Ram Sales. Now there are numerous ram sales wherever sheep are bred in large numbers, but there is only one event of this character which overshadows them all for numbers and importance to sellers and buyers, as well as for the general high quality of the offerings, and that is Kelso. I had read about the ram sales at Kelso ever since I can remember reading about livestock, and here was my chance to attend that unique spectacle.

The day before the sale I had arrived at the small country town of

Belford, a short distance below the border, to see the fine Ayrshire cattle and sheep owned by Sanderson of Newlands. Incidentally, nearly every farmer has his flock of sheep in Northumberland, for sheep are generally acknowledged to be an essential crop, if farming is to be carried on at a profit.

Only a few short steps from the station I noticed a commotion of farmers, sheep dogs, drovers, etc., and saw a sign on a small brick building overlooking some sheep pens which read: "Belford and District Farmers' Auction Mart." A sheep sale was in full swing, and thinking Mr. Sanderson would be there I inquired for and found him. The auctioneers had just begun to sell 5,000 sheep and 3,000 lambs, in convenient flocks and large lots. This large number was sold between 11:30 A. M. and 3:30 P. M. The animals represented the normal increase or surplus of flockmasters and farmers for a radius of fifteen miles in an intensively farmed region.

It is commonly said that "comparisons are odious," but still it is hard to refrain from remarking that some day we, in America, will be able to sell our livestock more ex-

peditionously than we do, somewhat as they sell stock over there. In England and Scotland no time is wasted at auction rings. There is no need for the auctioneer to deliver a lengthy preliminary oration, or to tell funny stories—or to exhort, cajole, supplicate, and almost threaten in order to secure bids. The farmers over there know what they want, are well versed in values, and have a clear idea of what they are prepared to give for animals of their choice, according to prevailing prices of the moment. I noticed at this farmers' sale of crossbred and grade sheep that each ring started off within a few shillings per head of what the sheep finally fetched. That is the reason they sold them so quickly.

Perhaps most of the buyers were from the neighboring county of York—drovers and speculators—some butchers—who were thinking in terms of mutton and lamb. The drovers who bought the ewes, said Mr. Sanderson, expected to get one more crop of lambs from them before fattening the ewes and selling them to the butcher. All the 5,000 ewes were animals which had given already three and four crops of lambs. The Border Leicester-Chev-

iot cross greatly predominated. In some cases one detected Suffolk, Oxford and other breeds.

Prices were relatively high compared with other years. Two years previously Mr. Sanderson's ewes had averaged only 35 shillings per head; the year before they sold for 46 shillings, and now his ewes had nearly reached the top at 59 shillings a head. As a matter of fact the tops among the ewes went to 61 shillings. A shilling is approximately twenty-five cents in U. S. currency. Mr. Sanderson sold about 100 ewes and 200 lambs. The latter fetched 32 shillings a head, and I think they represented the tops.

I left Belford the next morning for Kelso by the 8:20 train. It is a misty morning, but not cold. Sheep and cattle are resting serenely on the green sward, placidly chewing their cud. They have grazed most of the night, and are now transforming into meat the rich herbage of Northumberland. The Cheviot-Border Leicester cross seems to predominate everywhere in this country, and after the train is well on its way I notice we are going through pasture after pasture with Aberdeen-Angus, purebreds and crosses, dotting the landscape. Of course, there are many fine Shorthorns and Ayrshires.

But sheep! sheep! everywhere. The pastures are in splendid condition and no farm animal goes hungry in these parts. If it were possible to tell our cattle, sheep, and horses at home that there are pastures across the sea, with favorable climatic conditions, so nearly ideal—where there is always plenty to eat; where farm animals never are permitted to suffer from thirst, and where suffering from heat or cold is confined to the irreducible minimum, then these animals would say with one accord—if they knew how—that the region described must be a heaven for livestock. It is, as a matter of fact!

North England Sheep Country

The grade ascends into a rolling, hilly country. But what fine pastures! What beautiful old-world villages! What neat, well-ordered farms, each one with its circular straw-thatched "corn" ricks where the harvest is stored until threshing time, rather than in a barn. How the love of the beautiful is cultivated side by side with the more practical object of earning one's living. Flowers in profusion are growing in little beds at every railway station. Flower pots are peeping from every cottage window. We rush through the little station of Scremerston, positively radiant with flowers. At 9:20 we pass through the village of Coldstream, according to the sign at the station. I had often wondered where the name came from; others must have wondered, too; for who has not heard of the crack foot regiment—the famous Coldstream Guards?

This is indeed a smiling countryside, as the Norsemen of old must have found when they subdued the more primitive and peaceable inhabitants of these parts a long time ago. They liked the country, too, and many of them settled and left their blood there. Some of them even brought over the North Sea their own large, coarse cattle to cross on the aboriginal cattle of the ancient Britons; sheep, too, to be sure.

Grass, grass in abundance everywhere! Plenty to eat for the wild game and vermin, also. There must be many an honest father of a family in those parts who does a little poaching on the side—if taking rabbits along the railway right-of-way could be called that. I have never seen so much evidence of rabbits as during the few miles between Coldstream and the Border. For a mile or two after leaving Coldstream the railway embankments are literally honeycombed with rabbit warrens.

Just before 10 A. M. we reach Kelso. Motor cars are dashing about everywhere. Hundreds are hurrying on foot to the large field a short

distance from the station. It is a motley crowd. Noblemen and stablemen rub elbows. Flockmasters jostle with shepherds. We pass through the gates as the world renowned Kelso Ram Sales are about to begin. Spectators and buyers are assembled from all over the British Isles and numerous foreign countries; and to see the eager expressions on the faces of these people one would think there was nothing else to live for but the Kelso Ram Sales! And not all are men, by any means; women of sundry social degree are here, some of whom are farmers and breeders on their own account and are either sellers or potential buyers of rams. Others are the wives and daughters of buyers and sellers.

I had been warned to take up a position at Ring No. 3 if I would see the highest priced animal sold. Sure enough, as I discovered later, I was told right.

What would the average American sheepman think about a sale of purebred rams, with eleven auction sales in eleven different rings simultaneously, where 3,484 rams are sold, separately, between 10 A. M. and dusk? That is Kelso. The place where the sale is held resembles a huge bowl with slightly rising sides. The sheep are conveniently placed in large tents, each owner having his pen adjacent to the ring where they are to be sold. There is much bustle and subdued excitement; it means so much to some of the buyers to be able to select the rams which conform to their ideal—and to buy them at a price they can afford to pay. But the latter part of the proposition often makes "the best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft agley," and all the canny buyers can do in the meantime is to hope that things will come their way. Feed wagons and trucks are feverishly distributing clover, grain, meadow grass, and hay. Many shepherds are tying cabbage heads to the pen rails where the sheep avidly nibble them. Some prospective buyers are noting the numbers on the rams and comparing them with the

catalogue, with which everybody seems to be supplied—bought for a shilling.

There is great activity in the large tents and marquees where the sheep are being gotten ready for the rings. Many of the British breeds are represented, both in purebreds and crosses. What magnificent specimen of the breeder's art! What quality! What bloom! What size!

To be sure, one can see splendid animals at other sales; and in certain breed sales one expects to see equal quality in respect to some of the breeds represented. But, on the other hand, one can only see those truly outstanding specimens in two or three of the breeds here, and nowhere can be found such a wealth of numbers and such high average excellence.

An Eminent Auctioneer

It is nearly starting time, and already the seats are almost filled at Ring 3, but I manage to get a good place. Punctually at 10 A. M. a bell rings sharply, and scarcely before its tones have dissipated in the crisp northern air, eleven voices from the throats of eleven auctioneers in eleven rings simultaneously shout for bids on the first animals which are waiting to be sold. Ring No. 3 has for mentor David S. Hutchinson of the eminent livestock auctioneering firm, J. Swan and Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh. David knows his job; he knows the flocks and their standings and he knows the buyers. He is a real Scot, and he puts the seal of Scottish pronunciation on the names of the farms whence came these wonderful rams; and to hear him pronounce such names as Sandyknowe, Balboughty, Deuchrie, Muirside, Ruchlaw Mains, and Dockrayrigg is convincing evidence of the fact. Though ripe enough in years and background, he is young in resistance; he keeps up the fire incessantly—never a pause, as he calls for bids on the next animal before the preceding one has hardly left the ring. His endurance is simply marvelous, and long after

some of the other auctioneers have yielded the gavel to their assistants, David is still on the job, without a break, never missing a nod, a wink, a preconcerted sign or one with which he is familiar by virtue of the bidder's patronage in many other rings where he has sold stock. David earns his money! Few could replace him.

Some flockmasters may have as many as forty or more rams to sell; and some may have only a single animal. Some have their offerings divided among two or more rings, in the case of those breeds whose numbers necessitate more than one ring. Before the rams from any particular flock are brought in to be sold one at a time, an attendant walks around the ring holding high a pole at the end of which is a card printed in large characters with the name of the farm whence come the offerings; and until another sign with a different name on it is displayed it is understood that all the sheep are from this farm. There is no excuse for anybody to claim he does not know where the animals are bred, even if he has no catalogue, for the sign can be read on the outskirts of the crowd, but is shown only prior to the selling of the first animal in that lot.

I like the British way of identifying the origin of livestock by the name of the farm or estate rather than by the name of the owner. It carries more weight and significance, I think; for, after all, if one knows his livestock well enough he realizes that, with all due respect to the owner, perhaps the chief thing the public is interested in is where was the animal bred. These people think in terms of farms rather than owners, and they know instinctively—and do appraise with intelligence accordingly—the merits or shortcomings of each farm as reflected in the livestock bred and grown there. They know the kind of land, the approximate altitude, the number of years spent in building up the herds and flocks, the source of the foundation flock, the

background and experience of the herdsman and shepherds, the methods of feeding, and many other essential factors which enter into the making of a good farm animal.

Ring No. 3

This No. 3 Ring where the writer is sitting is reserved for Border Leicesters only. There are two other rings (1 and 2) also reserved for the same breed. And yet it is known beforehand which ring will have the honor of selling the highest-priced sheep. In the first place this is the very cradle of the Border Leicester breed—the region where this truly handsome and altogether useful breed of sheep can be found in its greatest perfection. Sandyknowe, probably the home of the finest flock of purebred Border Leicesters in the world, is at Kelso. It is also a fact that the Border Leicester, in this upland and hilly country on both sides of the Border, finds more scope than any other one breed for crossing purposes, simply because natural conditions on the one hand, and the butchers' and farmers' demands on the other hand, favor this breed. To be sure, this is essentially a grass country, and the same breed which is so popular for this region would probably be entirely out of place in those English counties where sheep are fattened on arable land. It should also be noted that the Border Leicester, in common with other good breeds, finds its greatest scope as a breed for crossing purposes. There remains another point to be explained: how is it known where the highest priced ram will be sold? Rams of the Border Leicester breed sell higher than any other at Kelso, and we can only surmise that the tops of the breed are reserved for sale in Ring 3 traditionally.

The first animal to enter the ring draws an initial bid of five pounds (\$25); it sells for thirty-four pounds, which is the highest price for that breeder's offerings. (He had five rams, and they averaged \$80

(Continued on page 27)

Basis of Lamb Prices in the Light of 1935 Figures

WHY is it that the Wool Grower is always printing so many figures and so much talk about lamb slaughter, market receipts, and prices? In the June and July issues there was a lot of this kind of stuff but everyone knows that lamb prices have advanced a good deal and so why keep talking about the market?

The answer of the Wool Grower to such a question is this:

The lamb statistics are being continuously assembled and studied to check statements made by processors in the explanation of prices. During most of this year until September lamb producers and feeders were dissatisfied with the market. Now they are feeling better about it, but no one can say whether the producer is getting all that he can reasonably claim and expect for his fat lambs. This year has seen marked changes in the packers' lamb buying. Heavy purchases have been made at new points, and receipts and buying at some of the older markets have declined. Of course, these changes in sources of supply for slaughter plants must be to the packer's advantage or he would not make such departures. It is possible for a movement of buying farther west to benefit both the packers and the producers, but so far the producer cannot be certain whether he has been benefited or injured by the change. The attempt to study that question is further reason for the presentation of additional figures and studying the record of the marketing of the 1935 lamb crop down to date, as is being done in this issue.

The July Wool Grower carried the May and June figures, which represent the first two months of marketing and slaughter of the 1935 lamb crop. Bringing down to date the figures for numbers of lambs slaughtered under federal inspection, the 5 months' kill from May to Sep-

tember inclusive shows 7,765,000 in 1935, and 7,059,000 in 1934. This year's slaughter has shown an increase of 10 per cent. This figure is still more significant in view of the fact that the government report of the lamb crop of the country showed a decline of 7 per cent below that of 1934. There has also been a marked drop in the movement of sheep from the larger markets to country points for feeding purposes. All of which is statistical support for the prevalent idea that the number of fat lambs available in the early months of 1936 must be materially below those of one year ago and of recent months. Reduced supply is supposed to mean higher prices but it doesn't always work that way in the lamb market. What it will do this winter will be watched with interest by feeders and range men.

So far as figures can be used for checking the present price situation and for basing an intelligent guess as to the period ahead, they can be handled and discussed with a view to answering three principal questions:

- 1—*Are lamb prices still out of line with beef and hog prices? If so, what is the reason for the condition and when or how is it likely to be remedied?*
- 2—*What do the changes in points of purchase mean to the producer?*
- 3—*In view of the fact that many ranch and western market sales are closer to quotations from eastern markets than in any previous year, how is the producer to know what basis to use to arrive at a fair price to ask at home or to expect at a nearby market?*

The above questions are treated and such answers as are now possible contained in the following discussion.

Lamb Prices Out of Line

The unusual discrepancy in 1935 between lamb prices and those for cattle and hogs has been discussed before in the Wool Grower. It still exists and no explanation that is satisfactory to a fair-minded producer has been offered. The situation still strongly suggests that lamb prices are restrained by principal buyers in a way that is not true of cattle and hogs which are handled by a larger number of concerns that afford a higher degree of competition.

From 1928 to 1932 the market price of fat lambs averaged \$1.13 above that of similar grades of cattle, and \$1.57 above hogs.

During the week ending September 21 last, the average price of good and choice lambs at Chicago was \$9.04, while good and choice steers of medium weight were quoted at \$11.00. Hogs were running slightly above \$11.00 without consideration of the processing tax. This was an advance in hog prices of over 4 cents in 12 months. The cattle prices showed about the same step-up for the 12 months, while lambs had made a net gain of about one-half the amount achieved by cattle and hogs. During July the better grades of fat cattle fell off to a little over \$10.00, but recovered to make an average August price of about \$11, and at the end of September a top of \$13.25 was reported. Heavy-weight hogs made an average price of \$9.87 at Chicago in July, as contrasted to \$4.82 in July, 1934. In August they advanced to \$11.48, and at the close of September were at \$11.35. On the other hand, lambs had a July average of \$7.96 which was only 64 cents above July of 1934. Their monthly average for August was \$8.68, and on September 28 there was a top of \$9.30.

It still remains to be shown why lambs have not shared in the price advance in anything like the degree that has come to cattle and hogs. It must of course be recognized that the supply situation has been different. For the first 8 months of this year numbers of hogs slaughtered under federal inspection fell off 40 per cent. Cattle lost only 8 per cent, and lambs increased 10 per cent as compared with 1934. The increase in tonnage of lamb amounts to about one half of one per cent of the total meat supply, and was therefore of practically no consequence in view of the decline in supply of pork and beef. In the earlier years of the depression, when packers sought to satisfy producers as to the lowered lamb prices, it was asserted that a potential demand existed for lamb which would become active at low prices and permit the absorption of any probable quantity. However, it is now explained that the slightly increased supply of lamb has had to be forced at a low price on an unwilling market regardless of the fact that the other meats are so high as to be causing quite a complaint from consumers.

Some of the recent statistics regarding lamb supplies and prices are of interest to those sufficiently optimistic to examine the situation which many contend can only be explained on the basis of price control by larger buying interests. The slaughter of lambs under federal inspection in August, 1935, was the largest reported for any month since September, 1934. Yet the market which started the month at a \$9.00 top reached \$9.50 on the 19th of the month without any intervening reverses. It was \$9.50 still on August 27, and in the succeeding three days declined to \$8.85, these prices being for Chicago. So that it appears that one of the largest monthly supplies of the season was processed and distributed on a basis of high live cost. During the month carcass prices at New York went from \$16.00 up to \$17.50, and during the last two days had slipped back only 50 cents while live prices lost 65 cents.

For those inclined to be inquisitive or curious, there is great interest in the records of the table showing for the last five months the federally inspected slaughter of lambs and prices on foot and in the carcass, compared with beef and fresh pork wholesale prices. Like the relationship of live lamb prices to those of cattle and hogs that has been referred to, the dressed figures also show lambs to be inexplicably out of line with other meats, much more so than can possibly be attributed to the insignificant increase in lamb supply.

Monthly Slaughter of 1935 Lambs—Comparison of Meat Prices

	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Federal Inspected Lamb Slaughter	1,584,125	1,420,679	1,545,804	1,665,449	1,548,865
Average Chicago Price Good-Choice Lamb ____Spring \$9.00		8.89	7.96	8.68	9.30
Average New York Price Spring Lamb Carcasses Good-Choice	\$17.65	17.35	16.29	16.80	17.75
Average New York Beef Price Good-Choice	18.15	16.31	16.30	17.70	16.05
Average New York Price 8-10 lbs. Pork loin.....	23.49	23.28	24.84	25.58	26.25

The prospective small supply of lambs on the winter markets should bring out the largest possible amount of buying competition among buying interests. If the shortage is as serious as seems probable, it should cause dressed values to return to their former higher position in the meat trade. If, however, the bearish tactics of chain store buyers continue as strong as they are claimed to be, a reduced supply may not restore lambs to their normal price position.

The New Distribution of the Lamb Crop

Three years ago Denver stepped into a new place in lamb marketing. Large packers greatly increased their purchases at Denver. To a considerable extent, independent orders followed because the smaller runs at river markets and Chicago did not offer the former chance for selection. It was very logically explained that with both range and feed lot lambs, Denver buying permitted

economy in distributing lambs direct to slaughtering plants in central states and on the Atlantic seaboard. It was possible for both producers and processors to gain by this change, which followed the retention of sale-in-transit arrangements at Denver while they were canceled at all other markets except Salt Lake and Ogden. The sale-in-transit system was restored on July 15 to all the markets at which it had been suspended for three years. As yet there has been no noticeable change in the proportion of lamb shipments going to the river markets and Chicago.

Possibly that will result later, though it rather seems that the packers like the idea of buying nearer the source and then distributing to slaughter destinations. In fact, this year has seen material increase in the numbers of fat lambs purchased at St. Paul, Ogden, and on the range.

It is an open question whether this new buying system is benefiting the producer, even though the packers' economies of distribution are sufficient to be shared with the producers, if for no other reason than to have them continue their patronage of the markets nearer to them. While this change has been going on there has been no material change in the location of the principal lamb slaughtering plants. These still are New York, Chicago, Omaha, St. Paul, and Kansas City, ranking in the order named.

The Standard of Lamb Values

So long as lambs for slaughter at Chicago, Omaha, and Kansas City were purchased at those markets,

shippers could properly consider the quotations as reliable showing of true value. The big killers came into competition with each other each morning for the lambs to go through the plant that day or the next. Orders from concerns farther east were also filled at the same places. It could be considered that the continued and competitive buying power would, on the average, continue prices in reasonable relationship to what carcasses, pelts, and other by-products could be sold for.

Today the grower's position is different and more difficult. Undoubtedly, the prices he can take at the ranch, or at the nearest market, look surprisingly good in comparison with what the reports show as being paid at the river or Chicago. But how are prices established at the old markets under the new system? Take present Chicago quotations for example. Can the prices paid there still be used as a fair measure of value based on conditions of consumptive demand? A little further on in this story are some Chicago statistics bearing on this important question.

In the first week of October, 9 cents on home weights was paid in Utah and Idaho, and perhaps as much or more in country deals in Colorado. On one of the days that 9 cents was paid on ranch sales, Chicago reported a top price of \$9.15; Omaha, \$8.65; Denver, \$9.15; and San Francisco, \$9.15. Of course the Utah ranch sale meant a net of a dollar per hundred more than would have been received through shipping to any market for sale on the same day. But if \$9.00 could be paid in the country, were the prices at the markets right or fair? Also, if there had been no selling in the country, and buying had been done, as formerly, at the markets with large slaughtering plants, would not the prices at such markets actually have been higher than they were?

Food for further thought is found in study of some Chicago market figures.

Chicago Supplies and Prices

From being a place at which over 30,000 fat lambs often could be sold in a day at steady prices, Chicago has come to find the selling of over 10,000 head without price cutting to be a rare exception.

Chicago figures on total receipts and "directs" are shown below for the last four months:

Chicago Total Receipts and Directs

	Total Reported	Directs		On Sale
		No.	Per Cent of Total	
June	165,585	107,696	65	
July	202,000	128,157	63	
August	167,000	88,056	53	78,944
September	215,000	72,350	34	
	749,585	396,253		353,332

The figures are from the daily reports of the Market News Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. Practically the entire number of directs were received by two packers. The third plant at Chicago receives large numbers of directs which do not regularly go through the yards and are not included in the government reports for that market.

Some detail on the August and September figures will suffice. On twenty market days, from August 5 to 31, excluding Saturdays, the average daily number on sale was 3950. On only one of those days were there more than 10,000 head on sale. That was August 12, with a total of 18,000, which included 7,611 directs reported. On the next day, a Tuesday, the arrivals reported included 3700 on sale and 300 directs, but the market was 10 cents lower than on Monday. Denver was steady and carcass prices were steady all week until Friday when they advanced a dollar and stayed there until the following Thursday, then falling 50 cents. That day live lambs were at \$8.85 after having been at \$9.50 from August 19 to 27. Some of the daily price fluctuations at Chicago must not be held too seriously, as under the limited numbers it may happen that there are no real top lambs offered, or none of the same quality as at other markets on the same day.

The market slipped badly all around the circle during the last two

days of August. The receipts for that week at 7 markets were 30,000 more than in the preceding week in which there was an advance. But they were 60,000 less than in the week of August 12 to 17, during which week there was a 15-cent advance at Chicago, and a 40-cent advance at Omaha and Denver.

On Monday, September 2, which was Labor Day, Chicago had no market. Omaha was \$8.85, or 20 cents over the preceding Friday. Denver was \$9.00, or 15 cents over the Friday before. Tuesday morning, September 3, Chicago had 12,000 on sale, and only 3,000 directs. The top price was \$9.50, while it had been \$8.85 on Friday.

In this week of Labor Day, seven markets had total receipts of 253,600 against 273,300 during the preceding week, at the close of which prices went off. On Friday, September 6, Chicago was \$1.40 higher than on the preceding Friday, August 30. At the same time Omaha gained \$1.15, and Denver \$1.15, going to \$10.00. Of course this pleasing reversal of form at Chicago may have been due to many other things, but it happened to coincide with the lowest arrivals of directs that had shown up in any week since June, and probably during the present year. For the four-day week, there were 33,000 on sale and only 9,000 directs.

In the following week there were 36,000 on sale and 27,000 directs, and a price decline of \$1.25 which started in on Tuesday, although dressed prices stayed up until Thursday. However, a drop was not unexpected after a week that brought a rise of more than a dollar. And the ascending week was followed by a 20 per cent increase in arrivals around the seven-market circle.

Again the writer probably has raised more questions than he has answered. But the least that can be said is that there is great room for doubt as to whether the producers have benefited through the taking of the old lamb markets out West and to the ranges. As before said, it is possible that processors and pro-

ducers both can gain under the new system of buying nearer the origins and having the shipping to slaughter under packer control. But it rather looks as though the old custom of measuring prices by what is paid at Chicago and river markets is no longer a right guide and producers need a newer and better way of knowing whether lamb prices are in line with actual value.

All of which goes to indicate, if not to prove, that this question of right lamb prices is a complicated one and that it needs a lot of examination by individual grower-shippers and by their organizations in a broader way than is now possible. Perhaps only men having the facilities and authority of the government can assemble the full facts and show just what they mean to the men who raise the lambs.

The indefensibly low amount of recovery in lamb prices in 1935 does not show that the producer is being paid in proportion to what consumers are today willing and able to pay for their lamb chops, legs, or stews. True, the winter market seems almost sure to be higher under very light supplies, but a good-sized lamb crop for 1936 is in the making. It now promises to be at least as large as that of 1934. And its cost at shipping time will be the highest in several years.

F. R. M.

Utah's Lamb Week

AN annual activity of the Utah Wool Growers Association is its Lamb Week held during the heavy shipping season for Utah lambs. This year the event covered the period of September 7 to 13, and all previous records in lamb sales were broken. While no figures have been made available, reports are that one of the largest packing plants in the state sold more lamb carcasses during Utah Lamb Week and the week following than ever before, and it may be assumed that similar high sale records were also made by

the other slaughtering plants and wholesale firms of the state.

The sheepmen's organization, working through the chambers of commerce in each community of the state, secured the cooperation of



GOVERNOR HENRY H. BLOOD
Endorses Utah Lamb Week

all the meat retailers who did their part in putting up window and counter displays and carrying special advertising in the local papers. Railroads also carried announcements on their dining car menus that it was Utah Lamb Week and Utah lamb of excellent quality was available in various forms to tempt the appetite. Restaurants likewise put Utah lamb before their patrons in special form.

Thousands of pieces of literature, including window streamers, counter cards, recipe books, and other kinds of educational and promotional units, prepared by the National Live Stock and Meat Board, were sent out from the office of the Utah Association to every part of the state.

As indicated in the above picture, Utah Lamb Week also had the good wishes of Governor Henry H. Blood.

The unusually gratifying results of the week, according to Secretary J. A. Hooper of the Utah sheepmen's organization, more than justified all the efforts put into it.

Textile Firms Sued by Stockholders

OFFICIALS of the American Woolen Company and of the Botany Worsted Mills, Inc., have recently been sued by a preferred stockholder in the first instance and a bondholder in the second case. The case filed against the American Woolen Company is discussed in the August 17 issue of the Commercial Bulletin as follows:

Charging that the accounts of the American Woolen Company were juggled in order to show the \$7,000,000 profits claimed in 1933, which were brought about on paper through inventory gains very largely and that these were ephemeral and no proper basis upon which to figure profits and that had they been properly considered the company would have shown a loss rather than profits, a preferred stockholder, Albert Lautman, owner of 100 shares, has brought suit against Lionel J. Noah, president of the American Woolen Company, and other officers and directors of the corporation in the Supreme Court of New York, this week, in behalf of himself and other stockholders for an accounting of alleged excessive salaries and unjustified bonuses which the executive officers are asserted to have received.

The complaint alleges that to Mr. Noah, who was elected president in 1931, a salary of \$100,000 a year was voted, while William B. Warner, chairman of the board, received \$30,000. The complaint said that it was represented to the stockholders that Mr. Noah, who had been associated with Gimbel Brothers in Philadelphia, the William Filene's Sons Company in Boston and the J. L. Hudson Company in Detroit, was going to the American Woolen Company at a sacrifice. The plaintiff asserts that Mr. Noah received only \$50,000 a year with Gimbels and was making no sacrifice in taking \$100,000 a year, and also that he had no experience in the woolen manufacturing business but that he had been employed wholly in merchandising.

Stockholders Acted Under Misapprehension

The plaintiff alleges that the meeting of the stockholders at which the bonus contracts with Messrs. Noah and Warner and Moses Pendleton, vice president, were to be approved was called at Springfield, Mass., and because this was out of the way of many of the 22,000 stockholders, some of them were induced to sign proxies permitting their stock to be voted by a committee controlled by Mr. Noah.

The plaintiff further alleges that under the company's by-laws the executive officers must be elected annually and asserts

that if the bonus agreement were valid at the time it was voted, it was good for only a year and was not binding in 1934 when the directors paid bonuses of \$600,000 to the three men named based on alleged net profits of \$7,000,000 in 1933. The complaint states that Mr. Noah received a bonus of \$273,185, while Messrs. Pendleton and Warner each got \$170,740.

The complaint charges that Mr. Warner took no active interest in the management of the American Woolen Company and had no office in the company's building, but that his actual business was as president of the McCall Publishing Company, which is said to have paid him a salary of \$135,000 last year.

Salaries Excessive—"Bonuses Unwarranted"

The complaint alleges that the salaries mentioned were excessive and unjustified and that the bonus payments were improper and unwarranted. The directors are alleged to have induced the stockholders to send in their proxies by failing to make a full disclosure of the salaries to be paid to the recipients of the bonuses.

The defendants other than Messrs. Noah, Warner and Pendleton are Albert H. Wiggin, Robert H. Montgomery, Charles F. Ayers, Charles Hayden and Ray Morris.

The plaintiff charges that the directors have carried on the business as a liquidating receivership and not as an industrial enterprise, and points out that four of the eight directors are connected with financial institutions to which the directors paid off \$12,000,000 in mortgages and coupon notes at a time when the money should have been kept for working capital.

Since Mr. Noah became president the company's assets have decreased \$54,000,000 and its liquid assets have dropped from upward of \$35,000,000 in cash and United States Government securities to less than \$9,000,000, the complaint charges.

The story covering the complaint against the management of the Botany Worsted Mills as it appeared in the Commercial Bulletin for August 24, was as follows:

In a suit filed in Chancery Court at Trenton, N. J., Monday, by Walter Sperling of 102 East Eighth Street, Clifton, holder of \$2,000 in Botany mill bonds, dissolution of the Fort bondholders committee and return of bonds turned in a receivership reorganization of the Botany Mills, Inc., and affiliated companies was demanded. Mr. Sperling charges that the troubles of the company, which is a holding firm for the Botany Worsted Mills, Inc., and the Garfield Worsted Mills of Passaic, N. J.,

were caused by the interwoven transactions of the directors. The officers of the firm were Charles F. H. Johnson, Henry V. R. Scheel, Otto M. Kahn, George W. Williams and Max W. Stoehr. Also involved in the transactions, according to the suit, were the Textile Mill Securities Corporation and Stoehr & Sons.

Mr. Sperling contends that as officers and directors they acquired stock in the subsidiary firms and sold it to the consolidated company "at a great profit to their own pecuniary advantage" and also acquired certain rights in a contract with the Textile Mill Corporation "to pull their own chestnuts out of the fire." Payments to Stoehr & Sons and Max Stoehr of \$500,000 were charged "vaguely" to organization expenses but never definitely explained, Mr. Sperling stated.

The consolidated company went into receivership in 1932 and Franklin W. Fort, who was a director and head of the bondholders' committee Johnson, Harry Meyer, Henry Whitehead and Henry Bohnsen were

named receivers. The receivers constituted themselves as a board of directors for the company, Sperling claimed.

In violation of the provisions of a trust agreement with the Chase National Bank of New York, which held a mortgage on the Garfield mill property, Mr. Sperling said, the receivers arranged a \$1,000,000 loan from the R. F. C. The Fort committee included Harry Brenner, J. Cheener Cordin, Joseph S. Maxwell, Karl A. Panthoin, Anton Schmid and Ferdinand Wilckes, who were "nominees and agents" of the directors and "said committee was brought into being for the purpose of whitewashing the acts of the directors and officers of the Botany Consolidated Mills, Inc." and "to procure a blanket approval of their acts."

Mr. Sperling contended that the committee "perpetuated a fraud" on the bondholders and stockholders by failing to disclose the fact that moneys and assets of the consolidated company had found their way into the "pockets" of the officers and directors.

Boston Wool Prices

SALES of wool in Boston during the week of October 4, 1935, were steady at about the slackened rate of the previous week, and prices were generally very firm, tending to slightly higher levels on some grades, according to the weekly review of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Prices on medium grade territory wools tended upward. Strictly combing 56s, $\frac{3}{8}$ blood moved at 66-70 cents, scoured basis, a fair amount having realized the maximum of the range. Clothing of this grade brought 63-65 cents. Strictly combing 48s, 50s, $\frac{1}{4}$ blood, tended firmer as a result of restricted offerings. Sales were closed at 62-64 cents, scoured basis. Prices were very firm on a moderate turnover of the finer graded terri-

tory wools. Original 64s and finer territory wools continued to move freely at very firm prices. Inferior lines comprised of short French combing and clothing staple brought 71-73 cents, scoured basis. Average to short French combing and clothing staple brought 72-74 cents, scoured basis. Average to good French combing 64s and finer territory wools were firm at 75-77 cents, scoured basis. Occasional sales of average twelve months Texas wools were closed at 75-76 cents, scoured basis.

Foreign wool markets were all reported very strong in cables received by private concerns in Boston. A little spot trading was reported here on the low crossbred foreign wools.

Domestic Wool Quotations

GRADE AND LENGTH	GRADED OHIO AND SIMILAR		Graded Territory
	Grease Basis	Scoured Basis	
64s, 70s, 80s, (Fine) Str. Combing	\$.31½-.32½	\$.78-.81	\$.78-81
64s, 70s, 80s, (Fine) Fr. Combing	.27-.28	.72-.75	.75-.77
64s, 70s, 80s, (Fine) Clothing	.25-.26	.68-.71	.71-.74
58s, 60s, (½ Blood) Str. Combing	.32	.71-.73	.75-.78
58s, 60s, (½ Blood) Fr. Combing	.29-.30	.66-.69	.72-.75
58s, 60s, (½ Blood) Clothing	.26-.28	.63-.65	.70-.72
56s, (¾ Blood) Str. Combing	.35-.36	.66-.68	.66-.70
56s, (¾ Blood) Clothing	.31-.32	.60-.62	.63-.65
48s, 50s, (¼ Blood) Str. Combing	.34-.35	.60-.63	.62-.64
48s, 50s, (¼ Blood) Clothing	.30-.31	.53-.55	.58-.60
46s, (Low ¼ Blood) Str. Combing	.30-.32	.52-.55	.55-.58
36s, 40s, 44s, (Common and Braid)	.28-.30	.47-.51	.50-.53

A Comparison of the Values of Cottonseed Cake and Corn for the Supplemental Feeding of Range Ewes

By Stanley L. Smith, U. S. Range Livestock Experiment Station, Miles City, Montana

THIS experiment was conducted by the Bureau of Animal Husbandry in cooperation with the Montana Experiment Station at the U. S. Range Livestock Experiment Station, Miles City, Montana.

The U. S. Range Livestock Experiment Station is centrally located in the Northern Great Plains region, where the usual severity of the winters is well known and often characterized by stark examples of suffering and starvation among animals wintering on the range. Sheep, wintering in the Northern Great Plains area, require concentrates to supplement the native forage, and it is the purpose of this report to discuss the results of three years' work in determining the relative values of corn and cottonseed cake for wintering range sheep.

Description of Experiments

The feeding trials began on November 1, 1931, when the breeding band of 1,156 ewes was divided into two uniform groups. One group was fed cottonseed cake and the other group received whole yellow corn. These concentrates were fed at the rate of one quarter of a pound per head per day. Each lot was herded separately during the first winter, but it was found practically impossible to keep the two lots on similar range feed and to have the two herders handle the sheep in a similar manner. In order to eliminate these difficulties a new plan was followed for the next two years.

Under the new plan corrals were established at each of the winter bed grounds and beginning on Novem-

ber 1, 1932, the ewes were divided each morning and each group was then fed its supplement. After the ewes had consumed their cake and corn they were allowed to mix and graze together during the day under one herder. In other words, their treatment or handling was the same at all times and the grain supplement was the only variable factor. Each sheep had to pass through the chute. One lot was fed inside and the other fed outside the corral, and after feeding they were mixed and herded together. At night they bedded down together on the same bed ground. Identity of the sheep in the two lots was maintained by use of different colored paint brands. This procedure continued through the winter until March 1 of the following year. The ewes were bred to start lambing about April 1, and they lambled in sheds.

During the remainder of the year the treatment was the same for each group in every respect. They were fed together during March, lambled together and grazed in one band with their lambs during the spring and summer.

Description of Winter Weather Encountered

The fall and winter of 1931-1932 were mild and free of snow until January 15, when considerable snow fell, making grazing rather difficult. Sub-zero weather was the rule rather than the exception, the snow was deep crusted and by February 9, the condition of the ewes made it necessary to conclude the feeding trials for that year and they were

weighed and put on hay until turned out after lambing.

The winter of 1931-1932 was especially applicable for testing the actual value of the two range supplements. Control of two important factors was lacking, however, that of the quantity and quality of the range for the two bands, and the herder or the human factor.

The fall and early winter of 1932-1933 were mild and free of snow with practically no frost in the ground. A decided change in the weather occurred on January 15, which ushered in a blizzard, covering the range with considerable snow, and colder weather prevailed during the remainder of January and most of February. Grazing conditions were critical during the early part of February as two severe blizzards occurred on the 6th and 8th, with accompanying temperatures of about 30 degrees below zero. During the last half of the month, the weather was mild and most of the snow melted. The experimental feeding of cottonseed cake and corn continued until March 1.

The weather during the winter of 1933-1934 was so mild that it was entirely possible for ewes to winter without a concentrate. Consequently, the value of the concentrate as a supplement would appear to be less than usual because body weights could have been maintained without it.

Sheep Used

Rambouillet ewes of practically pure blood lines, but not eligible to registry, were used in this experiment. They were bred to purebred

Rambouillet rams that were smooth, heavy shearing, and of desirable type. Each year the best of the ewe lambs are saved for replacement purposes, and the ewes are ordinarily culled when six years old. The percentage of lambs dropped, weaned, and the pounds of live lamb weaned per ewe, are based on the number of ewes at breeding time.

ing to weaning was excessive, due to late April storms occurring when lambing was half over in 1932 and 1933, and the drouth of 1934. However, the lamb death loss was uniform between the two lots and the weights of the lambs weaned differed but slightly each year, with respect to the kind of supplement fed.

Summary Comparison of Values of Cottonseed Cake and Corn with Respect to Body Weights, Lamb Production, Wool Production and Pounds of Live Weaned Lamb Produced Per Ewe

Year	Supple- ment Fed	No. Ewes Start- ing Experi- ment Nov. 1	Ewes Lost During Winter Feeding Period	Average Weight (pounds)		Ave. Gain or Loss	Ave. Fleece Wt. Per Ewe	Per Cent of Lambs Dropped	Per Cent of Lambs Weaned	Ave. Wt. of Lambs Weaned	Pounds Live Weaned Lamb Produced Per Ewe
				Initial	Final						
1932	Corn Cake	578	8	115.7	107.4	— 8.3	10.44	107.6	84.5	62.8	54.4
		578	8	114.9	114.9	— 5.2	10.86	105.0	81.3	62.6	50.9
1933	Corn Cake	563	15	112.1	108.5	— 4.2	10.10	103.9	78.5	55.9	43.9
		563	13	112.7	111.3	— 1.4	9.91	108.3	82.2	55.9	46.0
1934	Corn Cake	547	1	115.9	125.1	+ 9.2	11.42	103.5	87.2	52.8	46.1
		546	4	116.2	127.1	+10.9	11.57	103.5	89.6	51.6	46.2
Annual ave. for all ewes fed corn		562.7	8	114.8	113.6	— 1.2	10.64	105.0	84.1	57.3	48.2
Annual ave. for all ewes fed cottonseed cake		562.3	8.3	114.6	115.9	+ 1.4	10.77	105.6	84.3	56.6	47.8

Comparison and Discussion of Relative Values of Cottonseed Cake and Corn as a Winter Range Supplement

The above table summarizes the data on winter gains or losses, the yield of wool in the grease per ewe, the percentage of lambs dropped and weaned, the weaning weight per lamb and the pounds of live weaned lamb produced per ewe.

The ewes fed cottonseed cake averaged annually a gain of 1.4 pounds per head, and those fed corn, a loss of 1.2 pounds per head.

The yield of wool in the grease was 0.13 pound more per head for the ewes fed cottonseed cake. The length of staple and the quality of the wool were essentially the same in both lots.

The lamb death loss from lamb-

Summary

1. Corn and cottonseed cake were each fed at the rate of one quarter of a pound per head per day. Both supplements were fed in troughs during the experiment to avoid any loss which might occur by feeding on thawing ground or unpacked snow.

2. The type of supplement apparently had very little effect on the number of lambs dropped or weaned and the weaning weights of the lambs were nearly the same each year.

3. This experiment strongly indicates that a pound of corn has nearly the same feeding value as a pound of cottonseed cake for winter feeding in the Northern Great Plains region.

Lamb Feeders Plan Advertising Program

MEMBERS of the Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association voted at a meeting in Greeley, Colorado, on September 12, to raise a \$30,000 fund for an intensive lamb advertising campaign during the coming winter and early spring months when fed lambs are being marketed.

The money is to be obtained by the levying of an assessment of one cent per head on all lambs marketed by the members of the association, and will be in addition to the 25-cent fee deducted on each car of livestock for use of the National Live Stock and Meat Board in the general advertising of meat.

Under present plans, the major part of the special lamb advertising will be handled through the National Live Stock and Meat Board. There will also be a strong committee of feeders who will contact distributors in the large lamb-consuming centers of the East for the purpose of enlisting their support in obtaining a wider use of lamb.

A Wool Shirt Club

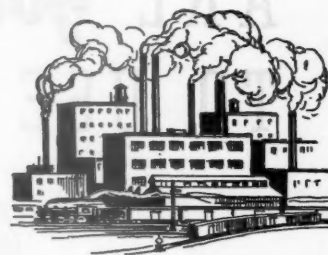
MR. B. M. HALBERT of Sonora, Texas, writes suggesting a "Wool Shirt Club."

"No initiation fees, no dues," he says, "just say to yourself, or your good wife, 'We do our part' and tell your merchant you have joined the Wool Shirt Club, and give him the size of the shirt you wear. If he hasn't it in stock, get him to order it for you. Just remember that the merchants cannot stock things that are not in demand. If we create the demand, they'll get them for us.

"I have been wearing light wool shirts for 45 years and find them nice and soft, comfortable to wear, easy to wash. We should have thousands more sheepmen over the country wearing them. Hence, the idea of a Wool Shirt Club. Every little bit helps."

National Wool Marketing Corporation

News Bulletin



.....

GROWER OWNED AND OPERATED

THE month of September has passed and the growing volume of sales and increase in prices which commenced about the middle of August continued to gain throughout the first three weeks of the month. The last week of the month showed prices well maintained with a noticeable decrease in volume.

There is no way of checking the amount of wool sold during the month of September by independent dealers throughout the country, but it is understood that 42 million pounds were sold by dealers who are handling government-consigned wools. The big volume of this was sold during the first two weeks of September, and the last two weeks have shown a tapering off in volume though no apparent easing in prices.

Consumption figures released by the Department of Commerce show that the weekly average consumption of wool suitable for clothing purposes by reporting mills who control 96 per cent of the machinery in place averaged 10 million pounds plus during the month of June, 11 million pounds plus during the month of July, and 12 million pounds plus during the month of August, or a weekly average since the first of January, 1935, of 10,277,000 pounds. Figures are not available yet for the month of September, but it is assumed that the weekly average for September will be at least as good, if not higher, than for the month of August.

Manufacturers have been able to advance prices slowly on their product in the New York market during the month of September in the face of opposition from manufacturers and retail clothing merchants, but it now appears that the retail trade is able to absorb and pass on increased cost made necessary by the advance in both the raw material and the finished cloth.

Fine and fine medium territory wools on this market are selling in a range from 70-75 cents clean basis, though on some extra choice wools 2-3 cents more per clean pound has been realized. Halfblood combing ranges all the way from 73-76 cents, depending upon the style and condition, and halfblood clothing is selling at around 70-72 cents. Three-eighths blood combing is selling all the way from 65-67 cents, and three-eighths-

blood clothing in a range of 60-63 cents. Quarterblood combing is selling at around 62 cents.

It is interesting to note that medium grade wools are today bringing clean prices in this market on a parity with what foreign wools of the same type and description can be landed here, while there is still room for some advance on fine wools before they reach foreign parity. The spread has narrowed up considerably during the past four weeks. At the recent London auctions held on September 12, it was apparent that the advance abroad which started in March, had been checked at least for the time being, and though the market was not particularly strong at the opening, since that date it has firmed up considerably.

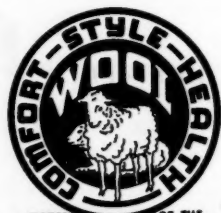
As far as one can discern at the present time, both domestic and foreign markets are in an extremely sound position and with continued good business here at home and abroad, there seems to be no reason in sight at the present time why there should be any decline from present values.

We firmly believe, however, that any advance from this time on must be considered more or less as speculative, as our domestic wool prices will from now on depend largely on the foreign price situation. All things considered, it is within the realm of possibility that the balance of the 1935 clip may sell out at higher prices than we are receiving today before the new clip comes on the market.

Three factors on the other side of this bright picture that no one can foresee at the present time are: First, when will the point be reached when the public has satisfied its needs for clothing, stops purchasing, and retail sales slow down; second, the possibility of strikes during the winter months on the basis of past labor history on coming out of the depression; third, whether or not there will be war in Europe.

On the first and second points we admit we have no gift of prophecy. As to the third, we do not believe there will be any general European conflict, and if Italy should engage in actual war in Africa, it will be of short duration.

ARE *You* ENTITLED TO USE THIS SEAL?



It is the identification mark of all who have combined to increase the demand for Wool by making it more popular for clothing and household use.

The great national Wool campaign is under way—sponsored by the National Wool Growers Association, the National Wool Trade Association and the National Association of Wool Manufacturers.

men's clothes telling how *fashionable* Wool is now becoming.

Do your share to keep this work going. If you have not already signed a contribution slip covering your 1935 clip, become a member and supporter of the Associated Wool Industries—*sign this coupon and mail it in at once!*

See your newspaper for reports on wo-

ASSOCIATED WOOL INDUSTRIES

386 4th Avenue . . . New York City

Date _____

I/we believe in the need for wool promotion.

I/we are willing contribute our share toward this effort on a basis of 10c per bag on my/our 1935 wool clip. It is understood this is the only contribution to be called for in 1935.

A. My/our wool is being sold to _____
this deduction of 10c per bag is hereby authorized to be made when the wool is shipped and settled for in full.

B. My/our wool being consigned to _____
_____ this deduction is hereby authorized to be made when wool is sold and final account sales are rendered.

C. My/our wool has been sold and paid for. I/we are hereby sending you check for \$ _____ covering our total clip at the rate of 10c a bag.

(Grower's Signature) _____

(P. O. Address) _____

(This copy to be forwarded at once to home office of purchaser or consignee.)

This contribution at the rate of 10c per bag was approved by the National Wool Growers Association at its January 1935 convention in Phoenix, Ariz.

Blanket Week at Rawlins, Wyoming

ENTERPRISING wool growers, under the direction of Kleber Hadsell, and with the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce and the merchants of Rawlins, Wyoming, put on a very effective Blanket Week in that city from September 16 to 21.

The event really culminated a project started last spring when growers of Carbon County shipped about two tons of off-sorts of wool to the Baron Woolen Mills in Brigham City, Utah, to be made into blankets. The blankets, 500 in all, were turned out in two styles, the "Rawlins," a white blanket with black stripes, and the "Wyoming," a black blanket with white stripes, and sold through Rawlins stores at \$5 for the former and \$5.50 for the later. Through the help of the merchants, who retained 50 cents from each blanket sale as a handling charge, and the Chamber of Commerce, the attention of tourists has been called to these blankets of high quality at low prices, and sales exceeding \$1500 have been made through the summer.

Rawlins, therefore, through the project has obtained some good advertising, and the wool growers have had a better market for their black and fine buck wool than if they had sold it along with their other wool in the usual way.

Mr. Hadsell, the sponsor of the blanket plan, has always been an enthusiastic promoter of wool. His work on behalf of truth-in-fabrics is well known. In recent years, his enthusiasm has aroused the interest of the Rawlins Chamber of Commerce, the State and County Extension offices, the merchants, and wool growers themselves in promoting wool, which has resulted in the building up of several very excellent woolen exhibits that have been sent over the state and also to conventions outside.

With the Women's Auxiliaries

Material for this page should be sent to
Mrs. Ella I. Livingston, National Press Cor-
respondent, 1110 South 9th East, Salt Lake
City, Utah.

Educational Department

Mrs. Henry Moss, Chairman
*Properties and Characteristics
of Wool*

THERE are three classes of fibers; namely, vegetable, animal and artificial.

Vegetable fibers consist of cotton, flax, hemp, which includes manila, jute, ramie, china grass, and other miscellaneous grasses and fibers of minor importance.

The animal fibers are wool, mohair, alpaca, vicuna, cashmere, coarse wools shorn from wild goats, etc., camels' hair, horse hair, and cattle hair. In this class we must include silk, which although a secretion so-called comes from an animal.

There are also artificial fibers, the principal one being artificial silk, or rayon as it is now called. It is not necessary to include mineral fibers, such as asbestos or any manufactured metallic fibers.

Unquestionably, we can say that sheep were the first domesticated animals, as the arts of weaving and felting of wool were among the first recorded.

There have been many diversified opinions as to whether or not wool should be called a hair. Wool has more different characteristics than the animal fibers termed as hair, but as to chemical composition, hair and wool are alike.

Professor Barker, the well-known Yorkshire authority, contends that wool is a modified form of hair. Nevertheless, other authorities have always contended that the natural covering of animals is commonly and correctly known as hair, whether it be coarse or fine, black

or white, whether commercially used in the finest fabrics, or so low in grade that it is used only in the mixing of mortar.

Wool is a perfectly elastic material. It is unique in this characteristic. No matter how much it is stretched without breaking, it will under ordinary circumstances return to its original length. It can be stretched to an enormous degree without breaking. A single wool fiber, if kept wet and stretched slowly, can be extended by 70 per cent of its original length without breaking, and when the stretching force is released it will return exactly to its former length. While strength and durability have to be maintained, yet heavy fabrics are tiring to wear. Lightness in weight is an essential in modern fabrics.

Wool fibers are fine and light in weight. The diameter of a fine wool fiber of 90s quality, (an exceptionally fine grade, rarely found in commercial wools), is about 1-2000th of an inch. The weight of such a fiber, six inches long, would be less than one-millionth of an ounce. In fact, if 90s quality fibers were placed end to end for one mile, the total weight would only be one hundredth of an ounce. Therefore, one ounce of wool fiber of 90s quality would measure 100 miles in length.

Wool has the lowest conductivity for heat of any fabric, and therefore will retain heat in a warm body which it covers. As wool prevents the body warmth from escaping, it obviously will not allow the cold to penetrate to the body. Wool is twice as slow as cotton in increasing its conductivity due to moisture, and

will retain heat better, even when getting wet.

A fabric to be worn next the skin must not feel damp, but must give a feeling of dryness and comfort. The natural perspiration of the body must be readily absorbed and held so that a small change of temperature will not produce condensations of water on the skin and consequent cold and wet discomfort. Wool will absorb 16 per cent of its weight of water; silk 11 per cent, linen 12 per cent, and cotton only 8.8 per cent. When wet, wool actually gives off considerable heat.

Wool fibers are affected by heat in combination with water. Hot water with pressure tends to felt the fiber, especially with certain soaps containing alkalis.

As our own hair contains a grease or oil to nourish and preserve the fibers, wool contains a grease or oil which is called the yolk. This grease serves as a protection from felting to the growing fibers. It also acts as a waterproofing. In the scouring process this yolk is easily washed out. This natural grease or yolk is absent when sheep are sick, old or have poor pasturage. Any of these conditions will show up in the fiber, the wool either being tender or being felted, which in wool terms is called "cotted."

Moths have an affinity for wool, whether scoured or unscoured, from the time the wool is shorn until the finished fabric is hanging in our clothes closets in the form of clothing. Wool containing its own natural oil, especially before scouring, is unusually tasty to moths. Moths are usually prevented by the use of insecticides.

Wool, as distinguished from cotton, burns slowly with an odor of

burning animal matter, such as feathers or bone, leaving at the end of the fibers a small crusty ball of ash. Cotton, on the contrary, burns without odor to a soft white ash. Wool is readily dissolved by hot caustic soda solution, while cotton is practically unaffected. This, although a simple test, is an important one for use in determining the presence of cotton, one of the most common adulterants found in woolen goods.

As a result of the combination of these qualities wool gives comfort, health, desirable appearance and durability to a degree which has never yet been equaled by any substitute.

Fall Activities of Oregon Auxiliaries

THE Morrow County Chapter of the Women's Auxiliary to Oregon Woolgrowers met at the Lucas Place in Heppner on September 6, with Mrs. Ralph Thompson, president, presiding. There were twenty members and seven visitors present. Four new members were enrolled.

On August 22-23-24 a wool show was held in Heppner, there being a total of eighty-one articles on display, afghans, rugs, suits and dresses, pictures, pillows and various miscellaneous articles. Prizes were given by the Auxiliary. An afghan, made by the members, was raffled on August 24 which realized \$58.85 for the chapter. It was won by Mrs. Isabel Corrigal of Heppner.

A free knitting school is to be conducted by the members of this chapter, the first meeting being held on September 9. A wool comforter is to be made and presented to Mr. and Mrs. Art Parker, who recently lost their home. On September 30 the members of Umatilla County Chapters No. 4 and No. 14, were entertained at a luncheon at Lucas Place.

The next meeting will be at Lucas Place in Heppner on October 4th.

Mrs. Glenn C. Jones, Secretary

* * *

The Grant County Chapter, Women's Auxiliary to Oregon Woolgrowers, did not hold a regular business meeting in September, the members being occupied with the All-Wool booth at the county fair held on September 19-20-21. Many interesting articles were displayed—knit suits and dresses and crochet dresses, rugs, wall hangings, pictures, pillows, afghans and many other articles. Prizes in this booth were given by the Auxiliary. This is the third annual exhibit held by this organization. A float was also entered in the parade on the last day of the fair which received second place in its class. The afghan raffled on Saturday was won by Mrs. H. D. Stewart; a profit of around \$45.00 was realized from this activity. The October meeting will be held in the north end of the county, the place and date to be announced later.

Mrs. Louise Moore, Secretary

Yakima Chapter to Have Guest Day

THE Yakima Chapter No. 1 of the Washington Wool Growers Association held its first fall meeting with a one o'clock luncheon in the home of Mrs. James Morrow, with Mrs. S. O. Stewart and Mrs. Benn Agor assisting.

Our president, Mrs. E. K. Foltz, gave a very interesting talk. A report was given on the sale of woolen blankets and yarn. About 75 dollars' worth have been sold during the summer.

Plans were discussed for our guest day, which will be held in our beautiful new Y. W. C. A. building on October 25. At this time we will demonstrate the different uses of lamb and will have a display of woolen articles.

The next regular meeting will be on October 11.

Mrs. Archie M. Prior,
Corresponding Secretary

Utah Auxiliary Plans Bridge Luncheon

A BRIDGE luncheon, to be one of the outstanding parties of the year given by the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Utah State Woolgrowers, will be held Saturday, October 19, at the Ladies' Literary Club, with Mrs. Parley A. Dansie, secretary of the National Auxiliary, acting as general chairman, and Mrs. J. H. Manderfield assisting.

Chairmen of the different committees are as follows: Mrs. J. R. Edgheill, tickets; Mrs. O. R. Ivory, arrangements; Mrs. Warren Shepherd, decorations; Mrs. J. R. Eliason, music; Mrs. Sylvester Broadbent, serving committee.

About three hundred guests are expected.

The Roast Meat Thermometer

THIS is a day of gadgets, most of them interesting and useful. The roast meat thermometer is one of them. As we understand its use, the roast is prepared for the oven in the usual way, a hole is made in the thickest part of it with a meat skewer and the thermometer inserted so that the point is about in the center of the meat, but not against bone, gristle, or in fat. The thermometer contains a black fluid that rises in the tube as the meat cooks. When this fluid reaches the point indicated at the top of the thermometer at which the kind of meat you are roasting is done, the roast is removed from the oven. And you know it is cooked just right, neither over nor under done and with all the rich juices saved. The Taylor Meat Thermometer, which we have described, retails at \$1.50.

The Kelso Ram Auctions

(Continued from page 15)

each). Strangely enough, these rams are from Newlands, Belford, the farm which I had visited the day before. (In another ring, however, the same farm had six other rams of the same breed which averaged \$115. In both cases averages were up compared with the previous year.)

Sandyknowe Tops the Sale at 300 Pounds

A buzz of voices announces something significant. Men light up their pipes and settle back in their seats prepared for a little mental stimulation as a man enters the ring bearing aloft at the end of a pole a large card on which is printed "Sandyknowe," a word analogous in Border-Leicester circles to that of Collynie in beef Shorthorn breeding. It is customary for each farm to bring into the ring as their first offering, not their best ram, but one of their best. The first Sandyknowe ram sells for \$525. No. 2, by the same sire, sells for \$225. Now comes No. 3, a ram destined to top the entire sale. A magnificent animal he is, with all the attributes of a leader of his race in a superlative degree. He carries himself like a king, and there is evidently much rivalry to own him. He starts at the modest price of \$150, but the figure increases rapidly, as bids fly thick all around the ring. Finally he is knocked down for \$1,500, to the Blackhawk farm where fine sheep of that race are bred. He is by Border King, a home-bred sire.

Four men in the ring keep these Sandyknowe sheep scurrying about continually so all can see their good points. One of the men is one of the two Templeton brothers who own this famous farm. A ram is no sooner sold than it is hustled out of the ring at one gate and another tup (ram) enters the ring by another gate; thus there are two corridors connecting the ring with the pens. Not a moment is lost. All these

Border Leicester rams, as indeed most of the rams of the other breeds, have their wool stained a bright yellow. It undoubtedly improves the appearance of the sheep in the sale ring. This stain, however, will not wash out, and so the fleece is "docked" a little on that account when sold. Only the Border Leicesters with their bare heads have their numbers stamped in blue on their cheeks. Other breeds have their numbers marked on their backs or sides. The sheep sold in Ring 3 are also ear-marked.

No. 7 sheep in this offering was first and champion at the Highland for Sandyknowe; it started at \$250 and sold for \$800. Sandyknowe sold in Ring 3 sixteen rams which averaged \$450, compared with the same farm's previous year's average in the same ring of \$335. But it also had 45 head in Ring No. 1, which averaged \$375 compared with an average of \$120 in the same ring the year before. Plainly, this farm appears to be the undisputed leader when it comes to quality, judged by the Kelso sales.

The next highest price in the entire sale was also on a Border Leicester, as Greenlawdean had a splendid ram which brought \$1,300, and ten head averaged around \$310. Undoubtedly the Border Leicester is an aristocrat on both sides of the Border.

Suffolks Outnumber All Other Breeds at Kelso

While prices for Suffolks did not nearly equal those paid for Border Leicesters, yet their popularity is attested by the fact that they actually outnumbered the latter breed, which had about 897 head, while I counted 1,176 rams of the former breed. The highest price paid for a Suffolk ram was \$275; it was from the Stetchworth Park flock. The same estate sold 25 rams which averaged \$135 a head. It was a revelation to note the growing popularity

of the Suffolk in this north country. I can vouch for their favorable standing in Northumberland, where I saw them on a great number of farms. To be sure, they are used on the native breeds for crossing purposes. Farmers like them very much, it seems. Being more accustomed to seeing Hampshires, I sometimes found myself pleading the cause of this sterling mutton breed. I found, however, that the farmers in this region had nothing against the Hampshire; they just did not seem to have had any experience with that breed; but everybody seemed to be well acquainted with Suffolks; and, of the Down breeds, next in line for crossing comes the Oxford. I endeavored to follow the farmers' reasoning in the matter of using tups of the various breeds, and concluded it resolved itself into getting the most mutton and lamb at the fastest rate of gain in the shortest possible time, which is a pretty good Scotch formula, one must admit. I said "Scotch," advisedly, for I can see no difference to amount to anything in the farmers on both sides of the Border. They are all mighty fine people; canny, to be sure; economical, why not? But always hospitable; always staunch and true, and the right kind of people to have for friends. And, more than anything else in the world, they know their farming and they know their livestock.

It was almost as surprising to see so many Suffolks as it was to see so relatively few Hampshires at Kelso. There were only 77 of this breed sold, and the averages were so relatively low that it hardly paid the breeders from the southern counties to send their sheep. My friends the Jervoises of Herriard Park, Hampshire, along with Swinhoe, had the top rams which fetched only \$75. Oxfords, on the other hand, were in much greater demand; and here again Sandyknowe scored with the top Oxford ram at \$200.

During the several days I spent in Northumberland as the guest of Colin S. Richardson, who breeds

purebred Aberdeen-Angus and Jersey cattle, as well as purebred Suffolk sheep besides running a crossbred flock, I learned much as to the methods of these north country sheepmen. In the first place it should be observed that Northumberland has excellent permanent pasture—all grass, by the way, with no weeds to ruin the land for grazing. This region taps great industrial centers where the per-capita consumption of both mutton and lamb is very high. The method of producing this meat works out something like this: Let us say a farmer has a flock of crossbred ewes — Border Leicester-Cheviot. He may breed these ewes back to a Border Leicester tup for the first crop of lambs, then to a Suffolk ram for the second crop; then to an Oxford tup for the third crop. There are good reasons for this progressive crossing, particularly in not using an Oxford ram to begin with. They like the Oxford size and weight in their lambs, but, Oxfords have large heads, and experience has shown that the young crossbred ewes frequently have difficulty in lambing when put to Oxfords for a first crop of lambs. So this procedure is logical; Suffolks have larger heads and more bone than Border Leicesters, and in the case of the Oxford it is simply one step farther in the same progression. Everywhere I went in Northumberland I saw evidence of Suffolk blood, and to some extent Oxford, and I noticed the fact that these sheep did very well there.

The shades of dusk were falling fast as I had to leave to catch the train to Newcastle, but still old Davy was selling without a break in Ring 3, winding up with the Balboughty offering. A great number of farmers were taking home the rams they had bought during the day. Many were hauling their rams in the back part of their sedans, two and sometimes three big rams. In some cases the sheep were blindfolded and halter-tied; others were loose in the cars. Some farmers had small two-wheeled trailers filled

with several rams they had purchased. Still others, who lived on farms nearby, were actually leading their rams away simply by a halter, on foot. In other cases, the rams were being shipped by rail and truck. Many sheep were bought on orders for shipment across the seas, especially to British colonies.

It was noticed that a general air of prosperity was in evidence among these sheepmen. A great number had good cars; and the way they got rid of the solid and liquid refreshments at the numerous booths on the fair ground suggested that they did themselves well without minding the cost too much, as should be, of course.

Kelso puts the sheep on a high pedestal with its wonderful ram sales. It can teach us much worth knowing.

Kelso, I'll remember thee and try to visit thy sales again.

Expansion of Farm Flocks in South Dakota

THE temperature for the month of September was far above normal, and very little moisture fell the first part of the month. Feed is plentiful this year; more hay than we had two years ago.

Many of the sheep-minded farmers are getting into the game again, stronger than ever. More than 7,000 head of sheep have been shipped into this locality (the northeastern part of South Dakota), and I do not know how many more have gone to other sections of this country. This expansion may mean lower markets and more competition for the western sheepman. Solid-mouthed ewes are selling for \$5 a head.

It seems as if the sheepman cannot have his day. As soon as the prices go up, then everybody wants to raise sheep.

Grenville, S. D.

H. Raedsch

Averages at the Billings Ram Sale

A TOTAL of 814 rams went through the ring at the Billings, Montana, sale (September 24), at an average price of \$19.65. Crossbreds had high place with an average of \$21.31 on 185 range rams. The Rambouillet average was \$20.36 on 355 head and that for Hampshires, \$16.88 on 284 head. The ten Corriedales offered by Malcolm Moncreiffe of Big Horn, Wyoming, made an average of \$32.00.

Results of the Wyoming Ram Sale

APPROXIMATELY 2250 rams were sold at the annual ram sale held by the Wyoming Wool Growers Association, September 17-18, at Casper.

It was largely a Rambouillet range ram sale; 1145 rams of that class being sold at an average price of \$18.40. The top in this division was \$33 paid for each of a pen of fifteen rams consigned by W. S. Hansen Co. of Collinston, Utah. There were twelve single stud Rambouillets sold at an average of \$92.70. The top was \$135 paid for a Montana State College entry. The pens of five registered Rambouillet rams averaged \$48.48.

Only range Hampshires were offered, 190 all told, which made an average of \$14.24.

There were 155 Corriedale range rams sold at an average of \$17.55, with the pen of 25 offered by King Bros. Company making the high figure of \$24 a head.

Snyder Bros. of Lovell, Wyoming, sold 160 Columbia range rams at an average of \$23, receiving \$27 a head for one pen of 20 yearlings. In all there were 545 crossbred rams sold at an average of \$19.65.

Lamb Market Conditions and Prices

Chicago

DIPS, angles and sinuosities of live mutton trade pass all human understanding. More or less plausible reasons may always be invented for any price movement, but mutations of \$1 per hundred or more in a few days appear unreasonable and that is what happened to lambs in September.

The month opened auspiciously as the top price climbed the pole to \$10.50; then abruptly descended to the pit, stopping at \$9.25. Killers' antics are bewildering. The \$10.50 episode was attributed to the fact that one concern went short of its requirements in an effort to retard the upturn; then indulged in a "get numbers" scramble that blew the lid off. That it was a flash in the pan subsequent events indicate, but the lamb market persistently keeps out of line with quotations on the other species, top cattle selling at \$13.25 and top hogs at \$14.50, tax included. The lamb market has at no time wrestled with a surplus and should be equal to a more creditable performance; certainly the discrepancy, especially in the face of a rising pelt market needs more logical explanation than is available.

Live trade conditions are reflected in a wild dressed market where wholesale cost has fluctuated \$2 to \$4 per hundred, within a six-day period. Wholesalers are engaged in a perennial effort to mark prices up, processors to get them down. Whenever wholesale prices reach an abnormal level, demand is automatically curtailed. Scarcity of pork, which many retailers have discontinued handling, should stimulate demand for ovine product and probably has to a limited extent, as mutton has scored sharp gains, which have been reflected in the sheep end of the live trade. Consumers, however, have had access to a more abundant supply of low grade beef, grass and warmed-up product, made

palatable by running through the grinder, a process that lamb is not susceptible to. Nor is lamb adaptable to sausage making, a prosperous branch of the meat trade. Fish and poultry are no longer cheap so that lamb deserves an inning.

Trade sentiment is, however, decidedly bullish, especially in view of prospective, if not actual, restricted winter lamb finishing. This will be imperative if feeders are not to find themselves out on a dangerous limb, as they have been investing their simoleons in unfinished stock at prices either on a parity with, or 25 to 50 cents under fat lambs. A prospect of 50-cent corn with abundance of cheap roughage, coupled with shorter winter production, puts them in much stronger position than a year ago, however, and the line between abundance and scarcity is finely drawn. More beef is in the making stage, but pork scarcity will continue as the spring pig crop was woefully short and killers have been eating into it at light weight and deficient condition for three months, insuring light winter tonnage. Lamb supply, which has been running high, is already tapering off, the native end of the crop showing decided deterioration while westerns have recently been sorted severely, always a sign of the end of the grass season. Slaughter under federal inspection during the first eight months of 1935 figured 11,555,000 head compared with 10,296,000 the previous corresponding period, which cannot possibly recur.

Following the mid-month break prices recuperated in gratifying manner; number buying was in evidence and, at the bottom of the slump when a \$9 to \$9.25 basis developed, killers all wanted lambs in the worst way; so badly in fact that when one of them got on a bunch he refused to leave it, in striking contrast to the previous attitude of "get-more-if-you-can." The previous spurt started the country buy-

ing feeders at fat lamb prices and as "seconds" from western bands ran to weight, feeders got few. The tide promptly turned, running the top price back to \$10 for a few picked lots, with \$9.85 the practical stopping point, but during the final week killers, always on the alert for weak spots, took advantage of a set of Jewish holidays to set prices back 25 to 50 cents, which relegated the top to \$9.50 on a somewhat scratchy basis. Top feeders sold at \$9 when the limit on fats was \$9.25 and at \$9.25 when fats went back to \$9.75.

During September a large percentage of western killing lambs cashed in the \$9 to \$9.50 range; while the boom was on, at \$9.75 to \$10.25. This marked considerable improvement over late August when \$8.85 was the top. On the rise feeders moved up \$1 and held it. At the crest of the rise prices reached the highest level since 1930, although a plunge of 85 cents to \$1.00 per hundred was effected in three succeeding sessions.

The signal for an advance the first week of September was a cut of 50,000 in receipts at principal western markets, a dearth down East and revival of shipping orders. The resultant upturn ranged from \$1 to \$1.25 per hundred, sheep gaining 50 cents per hundred. That week closed on a \$9.75 to \$10 basis for fat lambs, western ewes reaching \$4 and yearlings \$7.75. The second week when the flurry developed and \$10.50 was paid, came the crash, breaking the top of \$9.65 before the close, when natives had to sell at \$9@9.25. Choice Washington lambs, eligible to \$10.40 the previous week, were set back to \$9.60, plain western killers to \$9.25, but feeders held their ground, choice 62-pound stock selling to \$9.25.

During the third week supply was cut, and after the low spot, when \$9.35 indicated a scratch sale, recovery was in evidence. At the bottom prices were \$1.25 to \$1.50

Rambouillet Show Sheep FOR SALE

We must reduce our flock.

We offer for Sale:
EWE LAMBS, YEARLING
EWES, TWO AND THREE-
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under the crest, sorts considered. On that market a considerable number of lambs had to take less than \$9, the heavy and less desirable end of western bands selling at \$8.25@8.50. Then the top reacted to \$9.50, paid for choice 83-pound Idahos. Others followed until the \$9.85 quotation was established and a few choice natives made the \$10 grade, but toward the close press of numbers was again in evidence. The final week injected more vicissitude, as buyers punched holes in weak spots, setting the top back to \$9.50, everything on the list including yearlings and sheep sagging. Native lambs sold from \$9.25 down, plain westerns at \$8.75@9.25 and the pick of the crop at \$9.40@9.50 under 25 per cent sorts. Yearlings were set back to \$7 to \$7.50.

Fluctuations in dressed trade were equally erratic although that market was \$2 to \$4 per hundred higher than last year at the corresponding period. At the high spot choice carcasses realized \$20 to \$23 although the market refused to absorb many at that figure. Taking the month from start to finish a spread of \$16.50 to \$18.50 represented the bulk of dressed trade; culls and mediums realized \$14 to \$16, little difference being made between heavies and lights, although the former were occasionally penalized 50 cents per hundred. Demand for low cost carcasses was healthy, stews and coarse cuts always getting action. Carcass muttons sold largely at \$7 to \$10, with fat, wasty carcasses at \$5.50@6.50. A year ago \$12 to \$14 took good to choice lamb and \$5.50 to \$7.50 most of the mutton carcasses. All dressed prices moved up and down \$1 to \$2 per hundred within a few hours, always recovering after sharp breaks, but at the end of the month prices were on a parity with the start.

Feeder demand was insistent. Earlier in the season feeders balked at taking weights of 70 pounds and up, but, unable to get light stock, came across. The early September advance of \$1 per hundred on feeders was held to the close, files full of

urgent orders going unfilled. Western lambs came fat. Whole bands went over the scales to killers, either straight or under light sorts, weighing 80 to 95 pounds, and strings of Washington lambs made 91 to 93 pounds, so that killers got good dressed weights. As the thing worked out, feeders got few under 70 pounds. This means that killers got a larger share of the run than usual, leaving feeders in the lurch.

Fat sheep gained 50 cents per hundred, but supply was limited, otherwise it would have been impossible as mutton demand is restricted. If mutton could be utilized for a sauerkraut combination, more could be used as pig tails and spare ribs are so scarce and costly that kraut makers are complaining of lack of demand for their product.

The country bought no ewes for feeding, but bought breeding stock freely around \$5, mostly solid-mouths. Young ewes were scarce at \$6 to \$6.50 and yearlings at \$7@7.50. However, a ewe trade of considerable volume was done on breeder account at feeding stations adjacent to Chicago, New York, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana taking most of them. A migration of ewes from the Blackfoot reservation in Montana took some 10,000 to Indiana and Ohio. They were sold at \$8 per head, to arrive.

Bullish opinion dominating trading circles is based on substantial improvement in pelt values, reduced winter feeding, pork scarcity, and the fact that lambs are in strong hands, exactly reversing conditions of a year ago when a veritable swarm was sent into the corn belt, especially Iowa, to feed out on contract. This year that movement has disappeared, lambs are in the hands of owners and will get good treatment. Feed is relatively cheap, also abundant, so that gain cost will be cut in two. As January was high month last winter, many feeders will play the market to repeat, as that is a confirmed habit and as considerable weight was taken out it may be bunched on the return trip. Confident prediction of an \$11 to \$12

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winter market is made; in which event some of the money lost last winter will be recovered. The season's run of western lambs is at the termination stage, natives are diminishing in numbers and falling down in condition so that a bare spot may show up. All the handwriting on the wall indicates a feverish winter market and violent fluctuations as killers will use every trick in their kit to "get em down" whenever opportunity presents.

J. E. Poole

Omaha

FAT lambs enjoyed a spurt in the fore part of September which swept prices to the highest levels of the year, but a large portion of the upturn was relinquished as the bullishness eased. Nevertheless, closing price levels were 15 to 40 cents higher than those which were in force at the conclusion of August. Fat and feeder lambs sold on practically an even basis during the greater part of the month, prices of both being the highest for the month of September since 1929. There were intervals in fact, when feeder lambs outsold their fat kin.

Shipper demand, creditable to the restoration of the change-in-ownership privilege, continued broad and was a big factor in lending strength to the market. Packer interest was improved. Except for a few brief periods of weakness, there was an undercurrent of strength to the trade, reflecting improvement in the wool situation.

Receipts were 216,984, marketable supplies being somewhat more liberal than in the same month a year ago when arrivals were 255,546, in which were included 54,840 so called BAI's or old ewes purchased by the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation and sent to packing houses for slaughter.

Western range lambs moved in good volume, although at the month end there was indication that the movement was nearing completion. Westerns were much improved over

last year in both quality and weight, although there was a good percentage of feeder lambs. Native lambs moved in liberal numbers, being later than a year ago. Quality here, too, was much better than a year ago. Not many fed lambs were marketed.

In the early part of the month fat lambs hit a high of \$10.00, the top for the year and the best since late in the winter feeding season of 1933-1934. It took some good western rangers to earn the price. High for natives was \$9.75. At the windup westerns sold at \$8.50@8.85, choice kinds, which were missing, being quoted up to \$9.00. Natives finished at \$8.75. Fed shorn lambs sold late in the month at \$7.75@8.25.

There was broad demand for feeding lambs and it was well sustained throughout the entire month. Demand was broader than supplies, and potential feeders engaged in a scramble for the limited offerings. Improving crop prospects and a plentiful supply of rough feed made country feeders so keen for lambs that commercial feed lot operators found the competition too keen. They were able to put in only a few lambs, those of the weightier kinds on the shearing order.

The price trend was steadily upward, the net gain for the month being a half dollar. Choice handy-weights reached a high of \$9.10 early in the month and \$9.00 was a popular price for desirable kinds throughout the period. Bulk of sales was at \$8.50@9.00. Plainer kinds sold down to \$8.00 and mediums and lightweights ranged down to \$7.00. Feeder yearlings went out in limited volume mostly at \$6.50@7.00.

Fat yearlings and slaughter ewes met an improved reception as the month waned, price advances for the month averaging 75c@\$1.00. Supplies were seasonally light. Fat yearlings sold mostly at \$7.25@8.00. Choice slaughter ewes of light weight sold at \$4.00, the highest since May. Bulk of sales were at \$3.75 downward. Breeding ewes, which

came out of the West in liberal numbers, were in as good demand as feeding lambs, and a large number went out at steadily strengthening prices. Yearling breeding ewes sold from \$7.50 down. Mixed yearlings and two-year-olds brought \$6.75. Solid-mouthed kinds ranged downward from \$5.10 and broken-mouthed ewes and short terms sold upward from \$3.00.

H. F. Lee.

Denver

DESPITE a drop in fat lamb prices late in September the month closed with fat lambs 50 to 75 cents above those of late August at Denver. A similar advance was noted on yearlings and feeder lambs closed 75 cents to \$1 up. Receipts were quite liberal during the month, totaling 263,458 head as against a run in September a year ago of 221,121 head. A year ago, in September, however, receipts here were 524,359. This included a number of government drouth receipts though.

Buyers took fat lambs readily during the month, and very few loads were forwarded. Both big packers and shippers competed for the supply. The feeder lamb demand was broad during the entire month. Increased receipts, however, at the close resulted in a slackening up of trade somewhat, though good clearances were made daily and at higher prices.

Before the middle of September good Colorado fat lambs sold at \$9 to \$9.75 and later a top of \$10 was made. Some declines occurred later in the month and at the close the good lambs were selling at \$9 to \$9.25. Western lambs were selling late in the month at \$8 to \$8.50 with some choice kinds bringing \$9.15 toward the close.

Native lambs in truck lots sold up to \$9.25 but most went from \$9 down and many sales were made at \$8 to \$8.75. Yearlings sold towards the close of the month at \$6 to \$7 with strictly choice kinds at \$7.50.

Feeder lambs sold early in the month at \$8 to \$8.50, with plainer

kinds at \$7 to \$7.80. Choice feeders sold near the close of the month at \$9.10 with many loads at \$8.75 to \$9.

Fat ewes were in strong demand late in the month. Those that sold early in the month at \$2.75 to \$3.25 were bringing \$3.50 to \$4.10 later with only the plainer kinds below \$3. Solid-mouth breeding ewes sold at \$3 to \$5 and yearling ewes reached \$6.

Present indications are that a good many lambs will be fed in the Colorado and Nebraska feeding areas this fall and winter. While many feeders have contracted lambs, a great many more have not yet made their purchases, preferring to get their feeders on the markets. Because of this fact the indications point to a good demand for feeding lambs on the Denver market during the entire fall season. The demand for fat lambs and fat ewes is especially strong at Denver, and the trade looks for a good market at this point throughout the months of October and November.

W. N. Fulton

Kansas City

FAT lambs on the September close were 65 cents higher than the August close, but 50 cents under the high point of the month. In the first ten days of September prices rose \$1.40, then broke \$1.15 and then rallied about 90 cents but lost 50 cents of the gain before the close. The top price \$10 was paid September 9. Outside of the low point on September 2 at \$8.60 the lowest spot was \$8.85 recorded on the 17th. Another high spot came on the 24th with \$9.75 paid and this was followed by a \$9.25 top on the last day of the month.

The September average was 50 to 75 cents above the August average and the highest of the season thus far. Demand showed good volume. However the wide swing in prices left a general feeling that the advance would have been sustained had not killers been able to get large supplies direct whenever prices were on

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the upgrade. Since directs both in August and September weakened the general market, producers would do well to keep killers from getting supplies direct and on non-slaughter markets in such volume that they can control prices elsewhere.

Both cattle and hogs remained at higher price levels than lambs. This should have enlarged demand for dressed lamb and mutton, but killers showed no disposition to press sales of dressed lamb. Of the total movement in September the per cent of fat lambs was unusually large, in fact there have been few fall months on record that fat lambs made up such a large per cent as in September. On this account slaughter held up to about normal in the face of a decrease in total receipts.

Compared with a year ago fat lambs in September were \$2.50 to \$3.25 higher. This price position has been sufficiently high to stimulate the call for breeding ewes, and doubtless will result in a fairly large holding of ewe lambs in the West.

Prices for fat sheep were as much as \$1 higher in September than in August. Yearlings sold up to \$7.75, ewes up to \$4.25 and the few old wethers offered brought \$4.50 to \$5.50. On the close yearlings were quoted at \$6.50 to \$7.50 and ewes \$3 to \$4.10. Ewes that went to killers were those that did not have a lamb prospect. At this time last year a good many young ewes went to slaughter houses, along with an unusually large number of aged ewes.

The call for feeding lambs is urgent. Late in August feeders were moving at \$7.50 to \$7.75 and late in September \$8.50 to \$9 was the prevailing price. On some days feeding lambs sold as high as fat lambs. The proximity of feeder lambs to the prices of fat lambs means high average prices for the entire output. Feeders are paying high prices for thin lambs because they figure that feeding operations this winter will be materially reduced because normal supplies of thin lambs are not available. However it is going to take stiff prices next winter to re-

turn the feeder a profit. Lambs going into feed lots carry more weight this fall than last fall and on that account it looks as if November and December will see fairly liberal supplies of fed lambs at markets. Scarcity may make a high price level for late February and March.

There has been a considerable expansion in central and northern states in farm flocks, ranging from a few head up to as many as 200 ewes. While this does not amount to many in one locality, yet in the aggregate it means an important number. Rough feed on the average farm is the basis for handling the ewe but the lambs will come early and be conditioned for the spring and summer markets. They will fill in a gap in slaughter supplies that has prevailed since Texas ceased to supply grass sheep in appreciable numbers during June and July. Usually the supply of native lambs is cleaned up before western range lambs begin to move.

September receipts at Kansas City were 95,056, compared with 218,683 in the same month last year and the smallest in any September since 1901. The entire decrease was in western offerings, mostly Colorado and Utahs. Receipts from those two states were the smallest of any September since 1900. While car lot receipts decreased there was a slight increase in arrivals by trucks. September last year 75,235 sheep were received by the federal government on drouth relief purchases. In the nine months this year receipts were 1,104,629, compared with 1,268,991 in the same period last year.

Effective October 3, railroads restored the "Change-in-Ownership privilege" on feeding lambs and sheep and stocker and feeder cattle at Missouri River markets. This privilege was made effective on fat sheep and lambs July 15. Railroad officials as well as trade interests say that it means a material savings in freight rates for the buyer and in turn will be reflected to producers in prices they receive.

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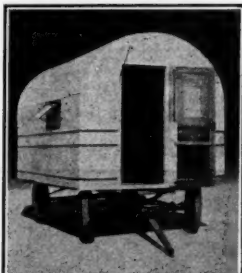
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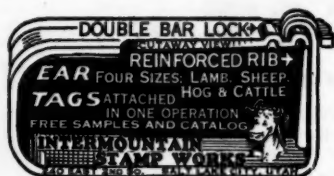


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St. Joseph

RECEIPTS for the month of September were very light, the total being 59,261 compared with 96,751 in August and 100,387 in September, 1934, when 19,035 were included on government account. Of the month's total 38,370 were from the West, and included a liberal proportion of breeding stock, and a fair number of feeding lambs.

The lamb market throughout the month was very uneven and closes 25@50 cents higher than the end of August. At the beginning of the month best western lambs were quoted around \$8.60 compared with \$9.00 on the close, though nothing choice was included on late days, the best here bringing \$8.75. During the first ten days the market advanced sharply, when top natives reached \$9.65, but since then values declined around \$1.00. For the limited number of feeders, there was a good demand and values are around 75 cents higher for the month. The month opened with best lambs at \$8.25, but gained strength, late sales ranging \$8.65@9.00.

Slaughter ewes and old wethers closed around 50 cents higher, while yearlings are around \$1.00 up. On the close fat ewes sold \$3.50@4.00, old wethers \$4.50@5.50, and yearlings \$7.50 down. The demand for breeding stock continued, and many lots of young ewes sold \$7.00@8.00 with older kinds \$4.00@6.00.

H. H. Madden

Producers vs. Packers

IN the year 1900, I embarked in the sheep business in Wallowa County, Oregon. Fortunately, I had for a partner an old-time sheepman who had a good credit and who knew the sheep business and who gave me a wide range of liberty in handling, buying, and trading in sheep. So I was able to learn very rapidly how to actually buy and trade in this kind of livestock. I

have been in the business continuously since that time and have been rich and broke, and broke and rich, having made and lost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Most of my losses, however, have been occasioned by investments outside of the sheep business.

I have invested in banks, loan companies, packing plants, wool warehouses, etc., and it cost me a lot of money before I learned the truth of the old adage, i.e., that the shoemaker should stick to his last. From now on, until the end of my active business career, I intend to confine my activities to the handling of sheep, for if I know anything at all regarding any business it is the sheep business. During this 35 years' experience in the sheep business I necessarily became acquainted with all phases of the business, from the producing of lambs to the marketing of wool, and marketing of lambs. I have never been able to solve the wool marketing problem. The first sales I made of wool some 35 years ago were probably about as successful as the sales I have made during the past few years. I do, however, believe in the cooperative marketing of wool, providing the cooperative marketing association is handled by competent men, and I am a director in the Pacific Wool Growers of Portland, Oregon, a cooperative organization which, in my opinion, is handled in the proper manner.

However, I think I do know what is the proper procedure to market lambs, and it is to ship the lambs to market to my commission man year in and year out, regardless of market conditions, for the commission man is necessarily my friend. I need him and he needs me. I am unalterably opposed to the direct marketing of livestock and I think that any producer who advocates this manner of marketing his product is standing in his own light, and is also ill-advised and misinformed concerning the facts in the matter.

I am in favor of a ruling being made by the Secretary of Agriculture that packers will be prohibited

from buying livestock direct, and confined to buying this commodity in the open market at the market centers of this country. I am also in favor of packers' being compelled, wherever possible, to process this livestock at or near the point of purchase.

I am also in favor that the so-called Packers' Consent Decree shall be maintained, for I believe that the packers want this done away with for the sole reason that they wish to put the small packer out of business, thereby eliminating his competition, which is, in my opinion, very beneficial to the grower.

I am in favor of an investigation at once by the Secretary of Agriculture in order to find out why it is that packers have been paying from two to three cents per pound less for lambs than they have been paying for hogs and cattle during the past few months. I know that they will say it is because they cannot sell the carcasses, but they have been able to sell the carcasses at times when they were paying two to three cents more per pound for lambs on foot than they were paying for hogs and cattle, so I don't believe them when they say that. In my opinion, lambs should not have been less since the first day of March to the present time, and should not be less than ten cents per pound on the Chicago market. The western grower cannot produce lambs for less than this amount and pay his debts.

Now the packer should know and I believe does know that if he destroys the producing industry he is taking money out of his own pocket and helping to ruin his own business and instead of trying to rob us he should at least try to pay us a living price so that we can produce these lambs and pay our bankers.

Now this is not written because I am sore or have any grievance against any particular packer, for I have friends among all of these organizations, but I am the kind of

a man who always calls a spade a spade, and regardless of friend or foe say what I think, although it sometimes costs me money to do so.

Fred W. Falconer

London Wool Sales Close at Various Levels

THE fifth series of London wool sales for 1935 closed on October 4. A cable received by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Agricultural Attache C. C. Taylor compares the prices of various types with the closing prices of the previous series that closed July 25. The next series is scheduled to open on November 19.

Compared with the closing quotations of the preceding series superior greasy merinos closed 5 per cent higher, and average scoured at par. The Continent was the chief buyer of merinos during the sales.

Fine greasy crossbreds closed at par, but medium greasy crossbreds closed at from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent lower. Low greasy crossbreds closed at par. Fine and medium scoured crossbreds closed 5 per cent lower, and low scoured crossbreds at par. Most of the crossbred offerings were bought by Bradford buyers.

All qualities of lambs wool slips closed from par to 5 per cent higher. Fine sheep slips closed at par, but medium and low sheep slips closed 10 per cent higher.

Actual prices quoted on October 4 compared with the closing quotations of the fourth series on July 25 (the latter given in parentheses) converted to cents per pound at the exchange quoted on the respective dates (in terms of official United States standards for wool, scoured basis) were as follows: Ordinary 70's at 48.98 (52.64); 64's at 47.96 (50.06); 60's at 42.86 (42.32); 58's at 35.72 (36.13); 56's at 28.57 (30.45); and 50's at 21.43 (25.80). Carding 48's closed at 19.39 (22.19); 46's at 18.88 (22.16); 44's at 18.37 (20.13); 40's at 17.86 (18.58) and 36's at 17.35 (17.55).

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Sampson's Livestock Husbandry on Range and Pasture	4.50
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Sampson's Range and Pasture Management	\$4.00

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CITY CONSUMERS can not eat live cattle, hogs and sheep. Livestock must be made into meat before it is suitable for the consumer.

A steer is not "put together" like a "jigsaw puzzle." It must be taken apart to be used. When a steer is "dis-assembled," the result is not only meat, but many other products. The other items are by-products and consist of hides, casings, bones, fats, etc. On the average, approximately 54.5% of the weight of the live steer is beef. Other edible meats, such as liver and sweetbreads, approximate 5.5%. Inedible products, such as hair, tallow, glue, etc.

In addition, the steer has various glands that are used in medicine.

Other recoverable materials known as by-products, equal about 10% of the live weight of the steer. The remaining 30% consists of shrinkage, impossible of recovery. Similar statements may be made for sheep and hogs, with varying percentages.

This means that the prices paid for cattle, sheep and hogs are governed by what the meat and the by-products will bring.

Swift & Company

U. S. A.

Over a period of years, Swift & Company's net profit from all sources has averaged only a fraction of a cent per pound

Around the Range Country

(Continued from page 12)

usual. Wheat ground has been too dry for seeding. The last crop of alfalfa hay was cut over the eastern portion without weather damage, this hay being confined to irrigated sections. Livestock are generally in good shape.

Hover

Wool growers of Washington and northern Idaho are more optimistic than they have been during the past five years. Most of them will show a substantial margin this year. On this account I would like to sound a warning against increased expenses. In spite of all we can do, our expenses will come up faster than the market for our products.

This year in our own outfit we have put into effect a bonus for the men who have been on the job one or more seasons, provided they re-

main for the coming season. This system will accomplish two things: First, it will discourage men in changing from one outfit to another, and second, our men will be worth more to us because of their knowledge of the range and trails.

To date (October 2) the fall season is dry and warm and prospects for feed are not good. However, hay is cheap and feed grains are not out of reason. I believe the country as a whole has an abundance of feed.

I do not believe the general cut in forest permits is justified. The permittees are few in number when compared to the various organizations and individuals who are advocating total elimination of grazing on the forests. The leaders in this movement in many instances are men of ability and in most cases are misinformed; in some instances,

however, there are deliberate misrepresentations of facts.

Up to 1897 when the national forests were created, the Indians had protected the forests from destructive fires by keeping the underbrush burned out. Just 13 years later under the white man's management, a large portion of the northern Idaho forests was destroyed by fire. According to the records of the Forest Service, properly regulated grazing is beneficial from a fire-protection standpoint.

I wonder if many of our wool growers realize that sheep grazed on the national forests of Washington in 1918 numbered 222,272 and in 1934 the number was 145,269. In Oregon in 1918 the number was 783,473 and in 1934 the number was 590,970. The numbers of cattle in the two states were reduced from 198,029 in 1918 to 109,465 in 1934. Oregon has approximately 2,273,000 sheep; Idaho, 2,170,000; Montana, 3,707,000, and Washington 640,000.

In the four northwestern states,

KANSAS CITY . . .

**IS THE ONLY MARKET WHERE THE FOUR LARGEST PACKERS IN THE
WORLD HAVE SLAUGHTERING PLANTS — ALSO MANY SMALL
BUTCHERS, EASTERN ORDER BUYERS, BROAD CORN BELT
FEEDER DEMAND**



The four large packers and small butchers give shippers to Kansas City a larger local demand than can be found at any other market. With the "Sale in Transit" freight rate arrangement

now in effect, Kansas City can distribute fat and feeder sheep to eastern points more quickly and economically than any other market.



***Your sheep will net more money at Kansas City because there is larger outlet and
better feeding facilities here than at any other market.***

therefore, we have a total of 8,790,000 sheep. In normal times the cost of operating will average \$8.50 a head, which makes the total cost for these states, \$75,715,000. Present costs average around \$5, making the total, \$43,950,000. The wool growers' income practically all comes from the eastern markets, and the expenditures are made within the four states. Evidently the men who are opposing the grazing on the forests do not realize the importance and value of the industry directly to the West and indirectly to the nation as a whole.

J. R. Ayers

IDAHO

Temperatures were above normal most of the time, especially over the southern portion; while precipitation was deficient, being negligible in places and only temporarily beneficial in other places. Pastures and ranges are consequently very dry everywhere, and have made but little late summer growth. Forage crops mostly matured early, but were harvested without damage. Livestock have been on fairly nutritious if not abundant forage, and are still in fair to good condition as a rule.

Caldwell

Grazing has been good during September, both in the national forest and on outside lands, but the later fall outlook is not so good, as the feed on public domain lands and other range is not up to standard.

About 25 per cent more fat lambs were shipped this season in comparison with 1934 and the feeder end will be short by just about that amount.

The ewe bands are in fine condition, so far as age is concerned, as we culled heavily both last year and this. We are not keeping quite so

many of our ewe lambs this fall as in 1934. Ewe lambs are selling at from \$5 to \$6 a head.

We are very much opposed to the reductions in forest permits. It is tragic, in fact, and means the ultimate ruin of the industry.

Dixie Sheep Company

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MONTANA

Mild weather prevailed most of the month, but killing frosts and sub-freezing temperatures terminated the growing season the last week nearly everywhere. Soils are mostly very dry as precipitation has been insufficient. Fall and winter grass is consequently very short. Livestock are largely in fair to good shape. Most forage crops matured prior to the end-of-the-month freeze.

WYOMING

Much of the month was cool enough to conserve moisture, which was generally deficient, and the last week brought a moderate freeze pretty generally. A little immature grain was frozen and will be cut for hay. Livestock have moved from the higher mountains pretty generally, in good to excellent condition. Lamb shipments have been heavy. The first week brought some good rains, continuing those of the end of August locally, as a result of which the winter forage outlook is much better than a year ago.

Lander

There has been good feed on the forest ranges during September and it looks as if the fall range (public domain and other lands) will be better than it has been for years.

Most of the sheepmen here feel that they cannot stand up under the reductions in forest grazing permits.

This section had about 20 per cent more fat lambs and 30 per cent fewer feeders to market this fall. All of our old ewes were taken out of the bands last fall, but we have not been able to keep as many ewe lambs this fall as usual because the crop was short. Eight cents is being paid for both fine woolled and crossbred ewe lambs.

No wool is left in this section.

Figure 8 Sheep Co.

WESTERN WOOL GROWERS

CAN NOW PROFIT BY RESTORATION OF

Change of Ownership Privilege on Sheep and Lambs at **SOUTH OMAHA**

EFFECTIVE JULY 15, western trunk lines revised their tariffs on sheep and lambs to provide for change of ownership at Missouri river markets. Their action means that western sheepmen can now take advantage of SOUTH OMAHA'S convenient location and better marketing facilities, while at the same time enjoying the benefit of the through, or minimum freight rate.

The differential of approximately 24 cents per hundredweight that has existed between the river markets and other western points, or direct, at which the change of ownership privilege remained in force after it was stricken from tariffs governing the rates through river points in 1932, is now removed. Range growers need no longer make a sacrifice in order to avail themselves of SOUTH OMAHA service.

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For years SOUTH OMAHA has been a leading market for feeder lambs. Annual feeder shipments from SOUTH OMAHA cover the entire Corn Belt as well as many eastern, southern and even some western states. Country demand is supplemented by strong competition from local feeders adjacent to market, who handle thousands of lambs the year 'round.

Abundant supplies of feed are promised for the SOUTH OMAHA market territory this year. All indications point to more orders for thin lambs than have existed here for several seasons.

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- INDEPENDENT PACKERS
- ORDER BUYERS
- FARMER-FEEDERS
- COMMERCIAL FEEDERS

● *South Omaha Offers a Broad Demand for Both Fats and Feeders*

Sell your sheep and lambs where rail and feed yard facilities are most convenient . . . Where you are sure of a competitive market for everything from pee-wees to prime fat and feeder stock . . . and in the large new double-deck, all steel-and-concrete sheep barn. SHIP TO SOUTH OMAHA.

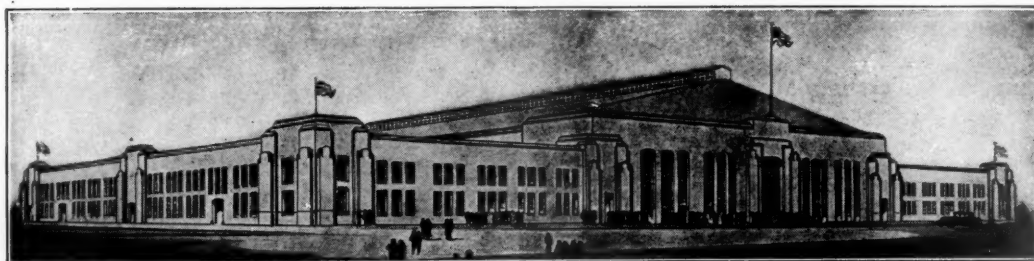
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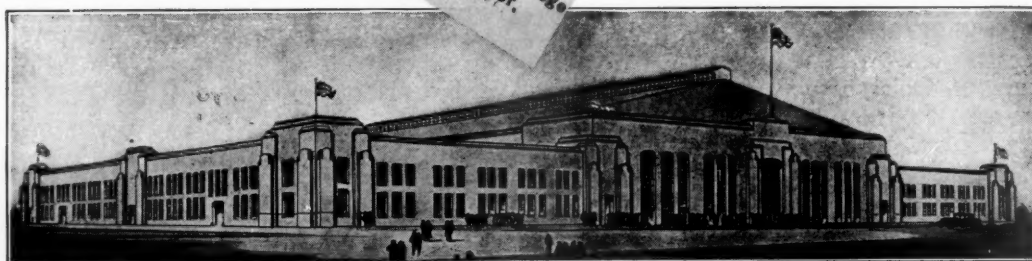
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